Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XIX, Issue No. 258 | WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 28, 2009 | www.saipantribune.com | 50¢

Visit us online @ www.saipantribune.com

OPINION METER

This week's poll:

Have you attended or do you plan to attend any of the candidate forums and debates being held in the runup to the Nov. 7 elections?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

PANDEMIC ALERT STATUS

PHASE 6

As of October 27, 2009

Phase 6: The pandemic phase, is an indication that a global pandemic is underway.

For more information about the H1N1 flu, contact DPH at 236-8797, Monday to Friday, from 8am to 5pm, 234-8950 during after hours, e-mail cnmipheoc@gmail.com, or visit www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/.

Source: CNMI Department of Public Health, World Health Organization

INSIDE

Heart Attack
A man accused of making more than $7 billion off the investment schemes of jailed financial manager Bernard Madoff drowned after having a heart attack.

BUSINESS...Page 14

New School
Madonna marked the start of construction of her school for girls in Malawi by planting a tree.

LIFE & STYLE...Page 18

5 tips to enjoy your treat without playing tricks on your teeth. **PAGE 9**

Compact impact grants released to Hawaii, Guam. **PAGE 13**

AFTER NOVEMBER 28, 2009

Alien workers cannot re-enter NMI using valid entry permits

DHS issues interim final rule on transitional worker program

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

David G. Gulick, center, district director of the USCIS for Hawaii, Guam and the CNMI, is flanked by USCIS field director for Guam and the CNMI Walter L. Haith, left, and community outreach regional lead Janna Evans after yesterday's news briefing at the USCIS office in Garapan.

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Nonresident workers can exit the CNMI any time during the transition period from Nov. 28, 2009 to Dec. 31, 2014, but they cannot re-enter the islands using their valid CNMI entry permit.

This is based on the interim final rule on the CNMI-Only Transitional Worker Program of the Department of Homeland Security's U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services published

See ALIEN on Page 4

MPLT approves Tinian request for $1M loan

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Marianas Public Lands Trust approved Tinian's request to borrow up to $1 million for the payment of municipal employees' retroactive salaries and two other obligations, it was learned yesterday.

MPLT approved the loan request during its board of trustees meeting on Tinian on Friday.

MPLT's approval came two days after Gov. Benigno R. Fitial signed into local law Tinian and Aguingan Local Bill 16-03 introduced by Rep. Edwin Aldan (Cov-Tinian).

See MPLT on Page 4

Q&A

On May 8, 2008, President Bush signed into law Public Law 110-229, the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008. Title VII of this law amended Pub. L. 94-241, the Act approving the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States. Title VII fully extends certain provisions of the immigration laws of the United States to the CNMI for the first time in history. A transition period formally begins Nov. 28, 2009.

Q. Who qualifies for the CNMI-only Transitional Worker status in CNMI?

A. USCIS has established a transitional worker program for foreign nationals to live and work in CNMI. Foreign

See Q&A on Page 2

Storm passes Rota, leaves no damage

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorrre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

With winds that topped 45 miles per hour, Tropical Storm 23W passed north of Rota yesterday morning, causing a power outage on Sinapalo but triggering no damage to property nor causing injuries on the island.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial can-

See STORM on Page 4

RELATED NEWS

Strong winds down power lines. **PAGE 7**

Classes suspended due to storm condition. **PAGE 8**

Local

Q&A

From Page 1

nationals who are eligible for an INA-based nonimmigrant status would not be eligible. Short term visitors for business or pleasure are not eligible to obtain CW classification because such individuals are not part of the foreign work force that is the subject of this interim rule.

Q. What is the legal basis for the CNMI-only Transition Worker program?

A. Section 6(d) of Pub. L. 94-241, as amended by CNRA, directed the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish a transition program to assist CNMI employers to obtain necessary workers who are not otherwise eligible under U.S. immigration laws during the transition period.

Q. What is the purpose of the CNMI-Only Transitional Worker Program?

A. The CNMI-only Transitional Worker Program will allow foreign nationals who are not eligible for another INA-based employment authorized nonimmigrant status to perform work in CNMI during the transition period. Thus, the purpose of the CNMI-Only Transitional Worker visa is to offer a lawful U.S. immigration status to those foreign nationals who are not currently eligible for any other kind of immigrant or nonimmigrant visa. During the transition period, it is expected that these transitional workers will find a suitable, long-term alternative to their CNMI-Only Transitional Worker status by obtaining status under an INA-based visa category, or departing CNMI.

Q. What happens to foreign workers in CNMI on Nov. 28, 2009?

A. When federal immigration law takes effect in CNMI on Nov. 28, 2009, foreign workers who have a valid CNMI employment authorization may remain, live and work in CNMI for up to two years, or for the duration of their CNMI-based status, whichever occurs first. Before the expiration of that limited time period, they must obtain either CNMI-Only Transitional Worker status, or some other lawful U.S. immigration status to lawfully work and reside in CNMI and to travel between CNMI and another U.S. or foreign destination. If they leave CNMI for any reason, they must have a valid U.S. immigration visa to re-enter. Foreign workers who do NOT have a CNMI work contract could risk becoming "unlawful" if another U.S. immigration status is not obtained.

Q. What is the admission code for this visa classification be?

A. This new nonimmigrant visa classification will use the admission code CW-1 for the principal transitional worker and CW-2 for dependents.

Q. What does this mean for foreign residents who have been living and working in CNMI?

A. For those foreign workers who are not eligible for another kind of U.S. immigration status, the transitional worker visa is a critically important alternative. It could potentially give thousands of foreign workers a temporary status while they determine an appropriate long-term immigration status for themselves and their families.

Q. What are the timeframes of the transition period?

A. Although U.S. immigration laws apply fully to CNMI, there will be a transition period during which temporary measures will be carried out to allow for an orderly transition from CNMI's permit system to Federal immigration law and give foreign non-resident workers time to identify an appropriate long-term INA-based visa classification. The transition period begins on Nov. 28, 2009 and will end on December 31, 2014. The Secretary of Labor, in consultation with appropriate federal agencies and the Governor of CNMI, may extend the CNMI-Only Transitional Worker program for additional periods of up to five years. No decision on any extension has been made at this time.

Q. What are the requirements for the new CNMI Transitional Worker visa or status?

A. Under the CNMI-Only Transitional Worker program, there are requirements for both employers and workers.

Requirements for Employers—Employers must be engaged in legitimate business and may not engage directly or indirectly in prostitution, trafficking in minors, or any other activity that is illegal under Federal or CNMI law. The employer also bears the responsibility of filing the necessary petition and paying the requisite fees to employ transitional workers.

Requirements for Workers — Under the interim final rule, foreign workers may be classified as CW-1 nonimmigrants if, during the transition period, they:

- will enter or stay in CNMI to work in an occupational category that needs alien workers to supplement the resident workforce;
- are petitioned for by an employer;
- live in CNMI;
- are lawfully present in

See Q&A on Page 3

??????

Who has integrity?
Who demands accountability?
Who votes her conscience - consistently?
Who refuses to compromise her principles?
Who always keeps the rest of us fully informed?

TINA SABLAN!

VOTE for TINA SABLAN for Senate!

☑ #5 on the ballot

Paid for by Friends of Tina Sablan

GET YOUR SPOOK ON

OCTOBER Specials

NOKIA 2760
- Camera
- Bluetooth
- Video Recorder
- Mobile Browsing
- MP4 Player

$49.00* GSM Postpaid
Reg Price: $94.00
Save $45.00

MOTOROLA w510
- 1.3 MP Camera
- Video Recorder
- Bluetooth
- Media Player
- Micro SD Card Slot

$69.00* GSM Postpaid
Reg Price: $147.00
Save $78.00

MOTOROLA Razr V3i
- 1.3 MP Camera
- Video Recorder
- Bluetooth
- Media Player
- Micro SD Card Slot

$99.00* GSM Postpaid
Reg Price: $249.00
Save $150.00

*Some conditions apply. New activation on 12 month agreement required. Offer valid October 12, 2009 to October 31, 2009 or while supplies last.

NTT docomo DOCOMO PACIFIC

483-CARE | www.docomopacific.com | Typhoon-Proven
Gualo Rai, Middle Road • Mita Travel, Garapan

I just got a great pair of glasses for just $77.00! at Marianas Eye Institute

Just $77.00 for a complete pair of glasses:
- Lens & Frames included
- One-year warranty
- Selected Brands
- Lightweight lenses
- $127.00 for Progressive "no-line" bifocals

Most Insurance Accepted
Walk-ins welcome

235-9090
Beach Road, Garapan
www.MarianasEye.com

Marianas Eye Institute
"Where Technology Meets Talent"

Q&A

From Page 2

CNMI; and

■ are not otherwise inadmissible to the United States.

Q. What does a worker need to do to get this visa or status?

A. The foreign national worker must meet the criteria noted in the answer above and find an employer willing to sponsor him/her. The responsibility for applying rests with the employer. Employers may file a petition for a transitional worker with USCIS using Form I-129CW, Petition for a Nonimmigrant Worker in the CNMI. (This new form was modeled after the existing Form I-129.)

Q. What does the worker's spouse and/or child need to get CW-2 status?

A. To accompany or follow to join, the derivative CW-2 nonimmigrant may file an application for extension of nonimmigrant stay on Form I-539 in accordance with the form instructions. The CW-2 status extension may not be approved until approval of the CW-1 extension petition. The filing fee is $300.

Q. How does someone obtain CW status?

A. Once the I-129CW petition is approved, the beneficiary and eligible family members may apply for CW-1, or CW-2 status. Since foreign nationals present in CNMI will not have given biometric information to the federal government before, and thus not have had required security checks conducted, biometrics will be required. The fee to collect biometrics is $80. A fee waiver is available if applicants can show inability to pay for both the Form I-129CW and biometric fees.

Aliens who are abroad will need to apply for a CW-1 or CW-2 visa at a U.S. consulate. When applicants apply overseas, USCIS will not require biometrics, however biometrics may be required by the Department of State.

Q. Which groups can apply for the Transitional Worker Program?

A. The transitional worker program will be available to two groups of foreign workers: (1) those who are lawfully present in the CNMI and (2) those who are abroad.

Q. Can people with CW status travel outside the CNMI?

A. Once status is obtained, the CW-1 or CW-2 nonimmigrant may leave CNMI but they must have the appropriate visa to re-enter. If the CW-1 or CW-2 status is obtained in CNMI (not the Consular post abroad) the nonimmigrant will have the legal status, but this is not a visa valid for travel to and admission into CNMI. If the CW-1 or CW-2 nonimmigrant departs CNMI, he or she must obtain a visa from a U.S. embassy or consulate to return to CNMI, unless alternative arrangements have been specifically approved by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Q. How does one obtain the visa for re-entry?

A. Someone who has obtained CW-1 or CW-2 status in CNMI (not at a Consular post abroad) who needs to leave CNMI for whatever reason will need to get a visa from the State Department to re-enter CNMI. Usually this is done at the U.S. Embassy or a U.S. Consulate via a locally managed appointment system. If, for example, someone with CW-1 status plans to visit family in the Philippines, he/she would need to make an appointment with the U.S. Embassy in Manila to get the CW visa while they are in the Philippines. They would need to travel with documents to show the State Department officer during their interview and be prepared to wait at least a few days for the visa to be issued. Each U.S. Embassy and Consulate abroad has a different appointment system. To learn more about the U.S. Embassy or Consulate you may need to visit, travelers should go to: http://www.usembassy.gov/. Visa wait times for each Consular post abroad are posted at: http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/wait/tempvisitors_wait.php.

Q. Can people with CW status travel elsewhere within the United States?

A. No. The CW visa classification is valid only in CNMI and does not permit travel to any other part of the United States, including Guam. However, if someone with CW status qualifies for another kind of nonimmigrant or immigrant visa, or a visa waiver program, he or she may travel elsewhere in the United States and the CW status would not prevent that.

Q. How much does it cost to apply for this visa?

*A***.** The fee for Form I-129CW will be $320, the same amount charged for the I-129. In addition, Public Law 110-229 mandates a "CNMI education funding fee" of $150 per beneficiary per year which is mandatory and cannot be waived. Lastly, there would be a fee of $80 to collect biometrics (fingerprints and photos) and run necessary background checks. This expense could be borne by the applicant or the employer.

Q. Are fee waivers available?

*A***.** Normally there is no fee waiver in employment-based cases. However, due to unique circumstances in CNMI, the I-129CW fee may be waived in extraordinary situations where an employer can demonstrate an inability to pay the fee. However, given the inherent inconsistency between sponsoring an alien for work and being unable to pay the fee required for that sponsorship, the situations warranting a fee waiver are expected to be extremely limited. There is a fee waiver for the $80 biometrics fee if applicants can show an inability to pay.

Q. Can an employer petition for more than one worker on the same form?

A. Yes, with some restrictions, employers may file for multiple beneficiaries on the same I-129CW. If the employees are all working in the same occupational category, for the same time period and in the same location, the employer may name as many employees on the petition as he/she wants. Unnamed beneficiaries are not allowed under this program.

Q. When can employers begin filing for workers?

A. The interim final rule stipulates that employers may not file for a worker more than six months before the date the employer needs that employee's services (i.e. if an employer needs a worker's services on January 1, the employer may submit a petition for the worker no earlier than July 1). The rule states that petitions may be filed before Nov. 28, 2009, but USCIS will not grant CW-1 status before that date.

To be continued

CNMI's cheapest Price!

All Souls Day Sale!!!

Pre-arrange flowers available in:
* Vase * Baskets *
* Corona * Ground spray *

Flowers, Materials and Accessories for Flower arrangement also available in bundles or per piece.

We accept special orders!

New Arrivals of Silk and Designer Flowers

KEVIN'S CORPORATION
dba Kevin's Department Store / Wholesale and Retail Store
PO Box 502592 CK Saipan, MP 96950 (Beside the Post Office)
Tel.: (670) 234-8866

30 Day NOTICE

The Workforce Investment Agency under the Office of the Governor and in accordance with the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 at § 134 (d) (4) (G) (ii), and the regulations at § 663.430, provide that, under limited circumstances, contracts for training rather than ITA's (Individual Training Accounts) may be used. Contracts may be used when there is insufficient number of eligible providers in a local area. This exception applies primarily to rural areas. The Act reforms the local service delivery system by eliminating the current practice of assigning participants to contracted training services and instead establishing a system that maximizes customer choice in the selection of training providers.

With limited training providers in the CNMI, the CNMI Workforce Investment Agency is in the process of developing for incumbent workers Certified Billing and Coding Specialist (CBCS) training in the form of a contract for training instead of ITA's.

The Workforce Investment Agency under the Office of the Governor hereby publishes this NOTICE for 30 day public comment period for interested providers. Comments must be submitted in writing and addressed to Ms. Edith DeLeon Guerrero, WIA Executive Director at Gov't. Bldg. No. 1215, Capitol Hill, Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 or email at gov.wia@pticom.com.

For Senate 2009
#5
Translucent
Individualist
Neighbor
Above-board
Paid for by friends of Tina

Halloween Specials at Palms Resort Saipan

Trick or Treat
Get your candy bags ready and receive goodies from our outlets from 6:00 pm ~ 8:00 pm

Costume Cocktail Party
at PauPau Bar from 5:00 pm ~ 11:00 pm
Costume Contest at 9:30 pm
Exciting prizes to win!!!
Live Eintertaiment by Maggie Naputi

Kiddie Costume Contest
plus FREE MEAL for kids in costume
Bring your kids to dinner at Minami Restaurant for a chance to win a One Night Stay for 2 adult & 2 child plus other prizes!
Costume Contest will be judge on the
MOST CREATIVE OR HOME MADE COSTUME
1st/2nd/3rd place prizes (11 years old & below)

Stay the Halloween Night
For just $88.00
with Breakfast or Sunday Brunch
plus a Halloween treat
(Connecting Room Rate available)

The Palms on PauPau Beach

For more information or reservation, please call 322-3311.

Other conditions apply.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

'Thursdays with Tina' at Pakpak Beach

"Thursdays with Tina" will take place on Oct. 29, 2009, at Pakpak Beach in San Antonio, starting at 6pm. This is the fourth in a series of weekly community gatherings where independent senatorial candidate Christina-Marie "Tina" Sablan will present her platform, answer questions, and listen to concerns. Next week's gathering will be held at Tanapag Beach on Nov. 5 at 6pm. All are welcome! For more information, contact Tina at 285-3935, email tinasablan@gmail.com, or visit www.tinasablan.com. ***(PR)***

Public school classes resume today

This is to inform parents and guardians that all public schools on Saipan, Tinian, Rota will resume classes today, Oct. 28, 2009. Parents and guardians are advised to take precautionary measures as they take their children to school due to post-typhoon wind and rain that may still be in the vicinity of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. ***(PR)*** hanks For Giving Walk' has new date

The Team Courage sponsored walk has been rescheduled to Nov. 14, 2009. The Thanks For Giving Walk is coordinated by CNMI cancer survivors and will be held at the Garapan Fishing Base, starting at 7am. Participating in this event is an opportunity for families and friends to get a head start in fielding a team for the MMAC event next year. Veteran teams for the MMAC have already begun fundraising. Interested in joining, but don't have a team yet? Contact Janine Nogis at 483-4207 or send an email to MMAC2010@googlegroups.com***. (PR)***

ALIEN

From Page 1

in the Oct. 27 Federal Register. It is open for public comments for 30 days.

Alien workers, moreover, may not be able to secure the required CW-1 visa at a U.S. consulate or embassy in their country of origin at least several weeks after the start of federalization on Nov. 28—or at least until early 2010.

This means legal foreign workers in the CNMI will be forced to remain on the islands at least after Christmas or several weeks after Nov. 28 if they still want to continue employment on the islands, except for emergency reasons that will be dealt with by the USCIS on a case by case basis.

Among other things, a foreign worker who wishes to go on vacation after Nov. 28 needs to have his or her employer file a petition for a transitional worker using Form I-29CW as early as Nov. 28, which is the first day of the transition period.

The processing could take up to 60 days. Only after a "notice of approval" for the transitional status is issued will a foreign worker be able to apply at a U.S. embassy or consulate for a CW-1 visa to be able to re-enter the CNMI.

There is also a possibility that an applicant can be denied a CW-1 visa and therefore won't be able to re-enter the CNMI and continue working despite possessing a valid CNMI work and entry permit.

The Form I-29CW is a modified form of the Form I-29, but it is specifically used for the Commonwealth-only Transitional Worker, or CW, program.

David G. Gulick, district director of the USCIS for Hawaii, Guam and the CNMI, along with USCIS field director for Guam and the CNMI Walter L. Haith and community outreach regional lead Janna Evans, held the news briefing on the interim final rule yesterday.

Gulick said that DHS is now working on a process that may allow nonresident workers to reenter the Commonwealth using their valid CNMI permit during the transition period. This special accommodation, he said, is still pending in Washington, D.C.

He said he is hoping this will be released before Nov. 28 when Public Law 110-229 or the federalization law takes effect in the CNMI.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan, the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, and nonresident worker groups in the CNMI have been pushing for a special consideration for CNMI foreign workers to be able to re-enter using their Commonwealth permits.

Press secretary Charles Reyes said yesterday the Fitial administration will "review and consider carefully" before commenting on the USCIS regulations.

In a statement yesterday, Sablan said that P.L. 110-229 requires that the transitional worker program be designed to promote the maximum use of U.S. workers. The law is also supposed to prevent wages and working conditions for local residents from getting worse because of competition from alien workers.

"It is widely recognized that at the present time we do not have enough local residents to fill all the jobs in our economy. So we still need alien workers. But thinking ahead, 5-10 years, we are going to want to see fewer alien workers and many more CNMI citizens, U.S. permanent residents, and people from the Freely Associated States filling the jobs in our economy. So I will be examining the rule that was issued today very carefully to make sure that in the long run the result will be more jobs and better paying jobs for local people. That is my goal," he said.

Public outreach

During yesterday's briefing, the USCIS officials also issued question-and-answer sheets on the CNMI-only transitional worker program rules. ***See sidebar.***

The USCIS has also scheduled public outreach programs for Thursday at the Garapan Street Market and Friday at the American Memorial Park outdoor amphitheater from 5pm to 7pm.

The CNMI-Only Transitional Worker Program is one of several initiatives that implements the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008, which expands U.S. immigration law in the CNMI.

In a news release yesterday, the USCIS said that, although U.S. immigration law applies to the CNMI starting on Nov. 28, a transition period will begin on that date during which temporary measures will be carried out to allow for an orderly transition from the CNMI's permit system to U.S. immigration law.

This will give foreign workers time to identify an appropriate visa classification according to the Immigration and Nationality Act.

A "transitional worker" under CNRA is defined as an alien worker who is currently ineligible for another classification under INA and who performs services or labor for an employer in the CNMI.

The Transitional Worker Visa category is a new nonimmigrant visa classification under INA using the admission code CW-1 for the principal transitional worker and CW-2 for dependents.

The CNMI-Only Transitional Worker Program will be available to two groups of nonresidents: those who are lawfully present in the CNMI and those who are abroad.

Application and fees

Under the CNMI-Only Transitional Worker program, employers may file a petition for a transitional worker with USCIS using Form I-129CW, Petition for a Nonimmigrant Worker in the CNMI.

This new form was modeled after the existing Form I-129.

The fee for Form I-129CW would be $320, the same amount charged for the I-129 and an $80 biometrics fee.

In addition, the CNRA mandates a "CNMI education funding fee" of $150 per beneficiary per year, which cannot be waived.

Due to the unique circumstances of the CNMI, the I129-CW fee may be waived in extraordinary situations where an employer can demonstrate an inability to pay the fee and still pay the employee's wage.

With some restrictions, employers may file for multiple beneficiaries on the same I129-CW. Employers must conduct legitimate business and may not engage directly or indirectly in prostitution, trafficking in minors, or any other activity that is illegal under federal or CNMI law.

Under the interim final rule, the CNMI-Only Transitional Worker program includes all occupational categories being used in the CNMI now.

Also, for the first year, the numerical limits for CW-1 status are based on the CNMI government's own estimate of the nonresident worker population, which is 22,417. After the first year, the numerical limit will decrease, as determined by the DHS secretary.

The CW visa classification is valid only in the CNMI and provides no basis for travel to any other part of the United States, including Guam.

Once status is obtained, the CW-1 or CW-2 nonimmigrant may leave the CNMI and return, but must have the appropriate visa for readmission.

The public is encouraged to submit comments on this rulemaking by Nov. 25, 2009.

MPLT

From Page 1

Three of the four members of the Tinian Legislative Delegation passed the bill on Oct. 19. The bill is now Tinian Local Ordinance 16-2.

Sen. Joseph Mendiola (Cov-Tinian), who is the chairman of the four-member delegation, said yesterday MPLT's approval of the Tinian municipal government's loan request is "good for the people of Tinian."

"People have waited too long for their retroactive salaries to be paid. With this loan, Tinian will be able to pay for its obligations like paying Tinian Dynasty and scholarship," Mendiola told Saipan Tribune in a phone interview.

The money is being eyed to pay $520,913.84 in retroactive salaries of municipal employees, $201,729.96 in debt to the Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino for expenses related to the 60th anniversary commemoration for the Battle of Tinian in 2004, and $277,356.20 for scholarships.

Only Sen. Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian) opposed the measure due to the lack of public hearing on a public indebtedness, and concerns about exacerbating Tinian's budget deficit.

"Let it be clear that I…support funding the 14 percent salary adjustments for our people, and I have a track record supporting it," Hofschneider said in a letter on Monday to Mendiola.

Hofschneider said he still supports loaning the money in spite of the declining local revenue and large amount incurred, but "in light of all the wasteful, misused and non-essential expenditure of public funds by the current municipality administration, I wanted safeguards and assurances stipulated in the authorization bill."

He said it is unfortunate that the other members of the delegation "railroaded" the passage of the bill without inserting provisions specifying a cap on the amount that the mayor is authorized to loan, where the money will be spent, a guarantee that the 14 percent retroactive salary adjustment will be paid in full, and a separate money reserved for scholarship.

Mendiola said once MPLT releases the money, the mayor of Tinian "cannot spend the money until a resolution is passed by the delegation."

The delegation is expected to pass a resolution stating the specific programs and activities that will be funded by the loan.

During the executive session on Friday's board meeting, the MPLT board called in the delegation members and the mayors.

Phillip Mendiola-Long, chair of MPLT, did not return calls by Saipan Tribune yesterday.

However, in a letter to Tinian businesses yesterday, Mendiola-Long confirmed that MPLT approved the loan on Friday during the meeting.

He said over 20 people showed up at the meeting and all of them were given an opportunity to offer comments.

Mendiola-Long also said the Tinian Chamber of Commerce, in which he is the president, will add the issues of the loan request, as well as the instrument landing system fund transfer, on the agenda of its next general membership meeting.

Mendiola-Long is also the executive vice president of Bridge Investment Group, which temporarily halted the construction of a multi-million casino on Tinian because of federalization.

MPLT Tinian trust account

Tinian Local Ordinance 16-2 authorizes the Tinian mayor to enter into a loan agreement with MPLT for a negotiated principal amount plus interest and expenses for municipal operational expenses.

This includes the execution of a security agreement and a promissory note with MPLT, subject to any conditions as may be impose by or required by MPLT.

The local law requires the establishment of an MPLT Loan Trust Account separate from any account of the Tinian municipality.

Casino revenue and other municipal revenues shall be deposited into it as security each month for the monthly debt service and interest payments to MPLT.

Under the local law, the Tinian mayor will be the expenditure authority for this appropriation.

The trust account shall also have a reserve of no less than two months' debt service payments available at all times.

"This full amount shall be made available within six months of consummation of the MPLT investment and loan, and only MPLT shall have authority to draw upon this reserve minimum balance upon demand and without notice the municipality," the local law says.

Hofschneider said a mechanism for paying the 14 percent retroactive pay raise pursuant to Public Law 7-31 was specified in the 2006 Tinian Municipal Budget Act. But he said Tinian Mayor Jose P. San Nicolas ignored the budget act and spent the funds elsewhere.

He said the mayor has already accumulated a deficit for Tinian by not properly paying Retirement Fund contributions for local employees, and the loan will only exacerbate the deficit problem.

In his Oct. 26 letter to Mendiola, Hofschneider said since the loan has already been approved by MPLT, the delegation should make sure that the 14 percent salary adjustments and the 60th anniversary debt to Tinian Dynasty are paid in full, as soon as the money is received.

He said the loan proceeds for the scholarship fund should be set aside in a separate account and should not be deposited in the general fund to be used for cash flow.

"Moreover, if the amount loaned is in excess of the three expressed purposes, the balance of the loan proceeds should be used for top priority needs and not to be wasted on unnecessary travels, and for the Noni and abalone projects," Hofschneider said.

STORM

From Page 1

celed classes in all public schools in the CNMI yesterday. He also declared no work for all non-essential government employees.

Government offices and the local courts were also shut down. The U.S. District Court for the NMI was open. Most private establishments were business as usual. Some private schools were closed, while others opted to continue classes.

At 2:30pm, Fitial declared an "all clear condition" for Rota, Saipan, and Tinian.

Moving west-northwest at 17mph, Tropical Storm 23W brought heavy rains on the three islands starting at 5am until 10:30am.

At 10am, the center of the storm was 20 miles north of Rota and 55 miles southwest of Saipan and Tinian, prompting Fitial to issue tropical storm condition 1 for the three islands. By 11am, it was already sunny on Saipan.

Rota Mayor's Office's administrative assistant Lorenza Barcinas said in a phone interview that there was no power in Sinapalo since yesterday morning, but that a Commonwealth Utilities Corp. crew was already fixing the problem.

Barcinas said heavy rains began at 5:30am, but the winds were not very strong.

A police officer on Rota said no one was reported injured in the storm.

"We're okay as of 2:15pm. The winds were not too bad. But the rains early this morning were very bad," the officer said.

On Saipan, the Department of Labor's release of "umbrella permits" for alien workers was postponed. Labor posted two notices on the main door at the former Halinas Kitchen, where they distribute the permits, advising the workers to come back on Nov. 6.

The distribution of permits for those having surnames beginning with letters E-F-G-H-I will proceed today, Wednesday.

'Sea turtles would always follow Jim Bell'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Jim Bell was always being followed by magnificent sea turtles in his adventures in the ocean and the stories he told of these creatures were among the most amazing stories he would tell of his "outrageous adventures" when swimming in the ocean, according to his ex-wife.

"It is hard to think of him being gone. He was my brother, my former husband, and best friend. He had a wonderful sense of humor," Donna Bell told *Saipan Tribune*.

Donna, founder of Radiant Design Living Technology in Superior, Colorado, has nothing but fond memories of her ex-husband, with whom she separated with in 1991.

"We remained best friends like brother and sister for 17 years. We were always there for each other during the best and worst of times," Donna said.

Bell, 72, has been reported missing since he took off into the waters near Suicide Cliff on Tinian on Oct. 17. His goal was to swim around the corner of the island and surface at Kammer Beach later that afternoon.

Donna first met Bell when she was still working on a television show.

"His home became one of the homes we ended up videotaping. It was an extreme home makeover for Jim," she recalled.

Bell also adored kittens and had a penchant for calling all small animals "bears." He would sign all his e-mails to Donna with "Jim and the Meow Meows." This happened, Donna recalled, after Bell found a cat up a cliff that was pregnant.

"Shortly after, he had three bears instead of one," Donna said.

When she fell ill, it was Bell who did everything to make her strong again. "Jim took care of me while staying at other's homes and traveling over four times a day as I got better and stronger again," she said.

Donna said Bell was also active with the Mormon church, where everybody came to know him as someone who always went the extra mile.

"He was an individual that served his whole life, especially his church. In fact during the year, he managed families coming in every single week to clean the church. If at any time there was a cancellation, he would clean that church, no matter what. He would impeccably clean it with all his heart," she said.

When he saw she was getting better, Bell confided to Donna his desire to swim the Tinian channel between Guam and Saipan on his 70th birthday. She said Bell had been training hard for this swim.

"This was his dream and I wholeheartedly embraced his plan. Everything came together and he was so thrilled when he achieved swimming the Tinian channel at 70 years old," Donna said. "As you know, he first achieved it when he was 42."

She said no one else in the history of the world had achieved this dangerous swim at any age.

She described Bell as a meticulous and prolific writer. "He had a great ability to write and his stories were phenomenal," she said.

Donna looks forward to receiving all of her husband's journals. "I know his stories are meant to be available to the world."

3 teens burglarize house, lead cops in car chase

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Three juveniles were arrested for allegedly burglarizing a house in San Jose, stealing the owner's car, and leading police officers in a car chase on Monday.

Department of Public Safety spokesman Jason Tarkong said yesterday that the suspects—a 13- and 14-year-old male and a 17-year-old female—were brought to the Juvenile Detention Unit in Kagman for burglary, theft, and theft of vehicle.

Police recovered the car and the stolen property from the roof of a building after one of the suspects confessed to the burglary.

Tarkong said that police officers responded Sunday to a report of a burglary at a house of a 61-year-old Chamorro female.

Police learned that the victim was sleeping when she heard noises in the kitchen. When she checked, she discovered that her purse, which contained the house and car keys, was missing. The purse also contained credit cards, ATM cards, a digital camera, and $100 cash.

After interviewing the victim, police left the area.

The following morning, Monday, the same victim called police to report that her car—a white 2004 Mazda 3 sedan—was gone.

At 6:14am, while on patrol in Koblerville, Police Officer Abraham Villagomez spotted the stolen car and requested for additional backup units.

Villagomez followed the car from Koblerville to Monsignor Martinez Road and then activated his emergency lights and siren to pull over the car.

The driver at first attempted to stop by the JTV Villagomez Building in As Lito but then suddenly sped northward, prompting the officers to give chase on Monsignor Martinez Road.

Police officers surrounded the car. One of the suspects tried to run away, but Villagomez apprehended him. The two other suspects in the car were also arrested.

Last Oct. 1, the same house was also burglarized. A 14-year-old boy was arrested soon after.

Woman sues alleged drunk driver in crash

A woman is suing in federal court the alleged intoxicated driver of a pickup truck that hit her car along Beach Road, Susupe last year, causing her injuries.

Lourdes R. Regino sued Dimas A. Omar for reckless conduct and negligence.

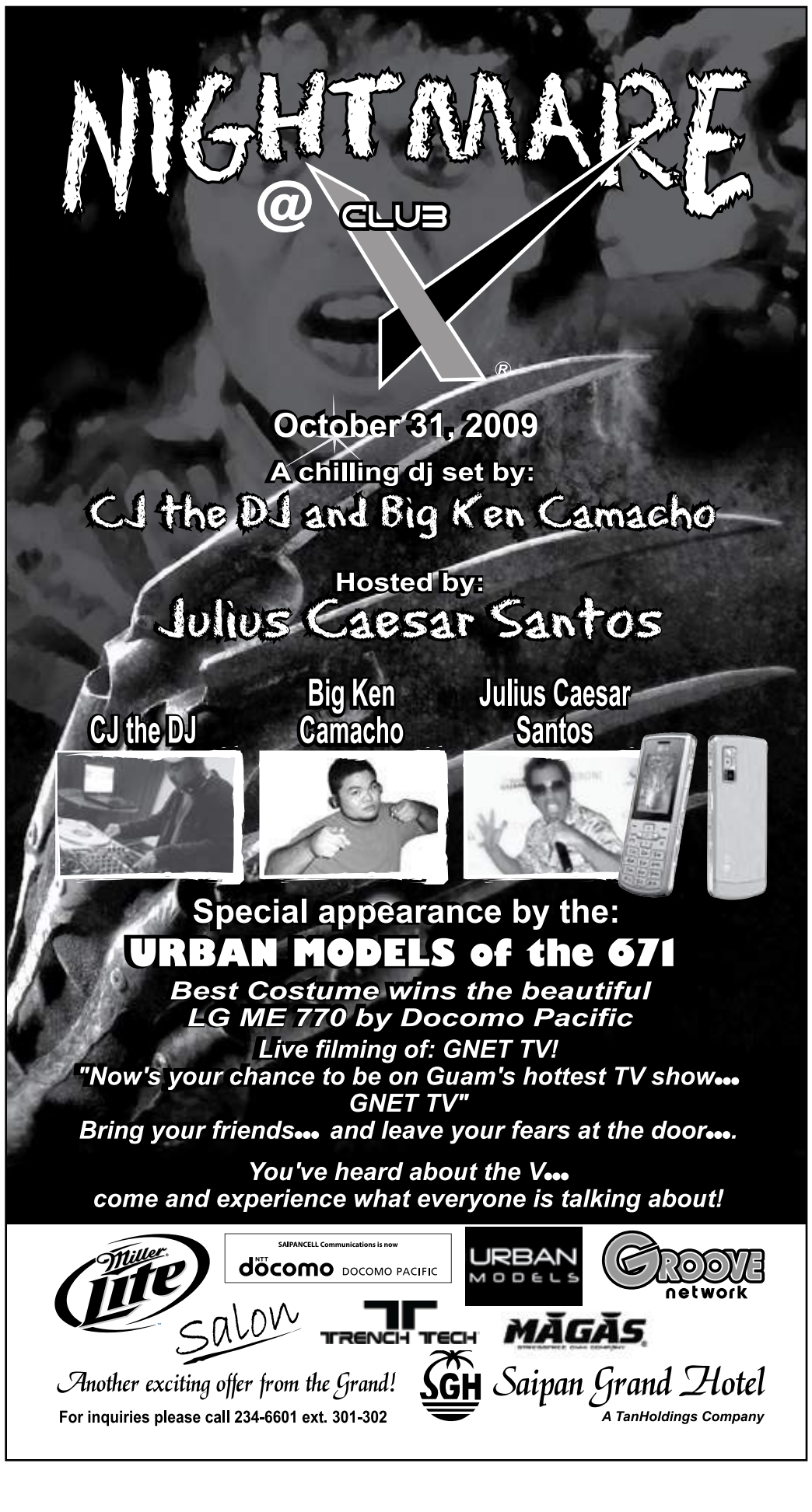
Regino, through counsel Colin Thompson, asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to order Omar pay her damages, court costs, and attorney's fees.

Thompson stated in the complaint that on Aug. 16, 2008, Regino was driving her 2002 Hyundai Accent car along Beach Road in Susupe at 1:54am, on her way home after completing her work at Hyatt Regency.

When Regino stopped her car at the traffic light adjacent to Sugar Dock on Beach Road, a 2000 Toyota Tacoma truck being driven by Omar suddenly slammed into the rear of her vehicle.

Regino sustained injuries, including a laceration above the right eye. She also complained of pain to the neck and other parts of the body.

Thompson said a Department of Public Safety investigation concluded that Omar was at fault and charged him with reckless driving, and driving under the influence. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***


NIGHTMARE
@ CLUB
October 31, 2009
A chilling dj set by:
CJ the DJ and Big Ken Camacho
Hosted by:
Julius Caesar Santos
CJ the DJ
Big Ken Camacho
Julius Caesar Santos
Special appearance by the:
URBAN MODELS of the 671
Best Costume wins the beautiful
LG ME 770 by Docomo Pacific
Live filming of: GNET TV!
"Now's your chance to be on Guam's hottest TV show... GNET TV"
Bring your friends... and leave your fears at the door....
You've heard about the V...
come and experience what everyone is talking about!
Miller Lite
SAIPANCELL Communications is now
docomo DOCOMO PACIFIC
URBAN MODELS
GROOVE network
Salon
TRENCH TECH
MAGAS
Another exciting offer from the Grand!
For inquiries please call 234-6601 ext. 301-302
SGH Saipan Grand Hotel
A TanHoldings Company

2 convenient locations to better serve you!
HARDT EYE CLINIC
Beach Road Clinic
next to Megabyte, Beach Road, Garapan
235-2030
HARDT EYE CLINIC
Kagman Clinic
Kagman III, next to Kagman Postal and Kevin's Video
256-2020
HARDT EYE CLINIC
DAVID HARDT, O.D. | DON HARDT, O.D.
Using advanced technology combined with old-fashioned caring to provide unhurried and understandable exams.
Insurance plans and all major credit cards are gladly accepted

Fitial urged to clarify position on Medicaid aid for FAS citizens

October

is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Come join us at the Diabetes Prevention and Control Program's

Walk On Wednesday (WOW).

Where: Oleai Beach Pavilion
When: Wednesday, October 28, 2009
Time: 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm

- Blood pressure and sugar check
- Clinical Breast Exam (CBE) and Pap Test
- T-shirt for the 1st 50 registered walkers

FREE

Women's Health Forum

on **Saturday, October 31, 2009** from **9:00am** to **1:00pm**, at Aqua Resort Club.

NO Registration Fee

- Learn about breast cancer and how to take care of your breast
- Know what programs are available and how they can help you

(Please register before the event at 236-8727/8)

This ad was brought to you by the Department of Public Health's Breast and Cervical Screening Program with 100% funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial was urged to cite his position on a proposal before the U.S. Congress to make immigrants from the Freely Associated States eligible for Medicaid benefits in CNMI and other territories.

However, Fitial has yet to respond to this request, initially furnished to his office on Oct. 6 by CNMI Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan.

Fitial

Sablan

A follow-up correspondence was provided to the governor last Thursday.

Sablan, in his letter to Fitial, said the proposal is part of the ongoing debate surrounding health care reform in the United States.

Sablan said that because this proposal is both a commitment of federal funds to pay part of the cost of Medicaid for FAS immigrants and a requirement that the CNMI pay the balance, he asked for the governor's analysis of the cost and benefit to the Commonwealth.

He told Fitial that the time is very short for the CNMI as a final decision about the U.S. House version of health care reform will be brought to the floor soon.

Sablan said the financial well-being of the CNMI's public health system and its ability to provide adequate care to the people of the islands have reached a crisis as shown by the governor's recent declaration of a state of emergency at DPH.

The national health care reform legislation, Sablan believes, may well have significant impact on the CNMI for years to come.

Press secretary Charles Reyes Jr. told Saipan Tribune yesterday that he's not very familiar with the issue and would further inquire with the governor.

The U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee passed by a voice vote to refine the amendments to America's Affordable Health Choices Act. In the proposed amendment, it classifies migrants from the FAS as "qualified aliens," making them eligible for federally-funded Medicaid benefits.

Sablan said that in the U.S. states, federal Medicaid funding is an entitlement and the greater the demand, the more money the federal government provides.

In the U.S. territories, however, Medicaid funding is capped. So the new benefits for FAS migrants under the proposed legislation will come out of the fixed amount of Medicaid funding the CNMI receives from the federal government, Sablan said.

He said he also asked Guam Delegate Madeleine Z, Bordallo and those supporting the amendment to revise it so that territorial governments will not have to bear new Medicaid expense.

Once passed, Sablan said, Medicaid funding for FAS migrants in the territories will not come out of the fixed income of Medicaid funding as currently received by the CNMI.

"Accepting the revised amendment would mean that providing Medicaid benefits would become a statutory obligation of territorial governments. If, however, the CNMI is already paying the cost of health care for low-income or indigent FAS migrants, the tradeoff between new federal funds to cover some 75 percent of this expense and a statutory requirement to provide this care might be the appropriate policy decision," Sablan explained.

Strong winds down power lines

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The power distribution system on all three major islands sustained some damage during the onset of storm condition yesterday, resulting in power outages, according to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

On Saipan alone, the utilities company noted 20 reported events starting at 6am Tuesday, said CUC assistant director for operation Abe Utu Malae. All 20 events involved the power distribution system, causing various feeders to trip starting in the morning.

As of 1pm yesterday, CUC recorded two transformer failures, six fluctuations, and four damaged secondary line, Malae said.

Eight customers, he added, were without power for more than hour during the same period.

"Even though the winds were stronger than expected, there were a total of only 20 reported events on the power distribution system that caused the various feeders to trip," Malae told *Saipan Tribune*.

On Rota, the power system recorded a total of 10 events. These included six pin insulators that failed and a secondary line that was damaged. A pole cross arm also fell, resulting in the manual shutdown of one of the three feeders. Rota was closer to the center of the tropical storm yesterday.

On Tinian, Malae said only one customer's service drop was damaged by the wind and it was promptly repaired by CUC.

Malae said the power distribution system continues to be a major concern for CUC.

"The distribution system continues to be vulnerable and must not only be repaired but redesigned in order to minimize the size of the areas that are affected should a fault occur," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

As of 5pm yesterday, CUC crews were still restoring power to damaged areas and about 10 families have yet to have their power supply.

"Restoration could be done quicker if we have better equipment," Malae said.

The affected areas on Saipan included Kiya 1, 2, 4, and Feeders 1 and 4.

PSS extends fundraiser for A. Samoa

The Public School System extended until Friday the fundraising activity it is holding in all schools to help the tsunami-hit American Samoa.

The fundraiser was scheduled from Oct. 9 through Oct. 16 but, according to associate commissioner for administrative services Peter Lea'u, PSS decided to extend it until Oct. 30 because many schools have yet to turn in their collections.

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan launched the weeklong "Spare a Dollar Day Drive" to assist the Public School System's counterpart in American Samoa.

The disaster washed out hundreds of lives and properties, including school facilities.

So far, over $3,000 has already been raised by public schools.

Among the schools that have yet to turn in their collections are Saipan Southern High School, Hopwood Junior High School, and Garapan Elementary School.

Le'au is optimistic that the amount will go up by the end of the drive.

After the tsunami hit American Samoa on Sept. 29, Sablan wrote a statement of support to American Samoa Department of Education director Dr. Claire Poumele.

Whatever is collected from PSS students and employees will be turned over to the victims for the procurement of school materials and supplies for the children.

Every dollar each student, teacher, and employee will donate will be a significant help for Samoan kids, Sablan said.

American Samoa has some 29 public schools.

Last Saturday, over $25,000 was also raised by the CNMI Tsunami Relief Drive for Samoa through tele-thon at the Garapan Fishing Base.

Organizers will still be collecting cash and in-kind donations until Oct. 31. ***(Moneth Deposa)***

Republican Party of the NMI Association
invites everyone to the
HAppy GOP Rally
GOP
In appreciation of our CNMI community, supporters, volunteers, and voters for opening up their hearts and homes for our Republican Party candidates, we humbly invite everyone to join us for a fun-filled night for our RALLY!
Friday, October 30, 2009
4:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Civic Center Beach
GOP Manhoben will meet at 13 Fishermen at 3:00 PM
and will convoy to Civic Center Beach by 3:45 PM
We are the CNMI 's Party! Please Vote Republican!
Thank You! Heinzarnold2009.com
Paid for by David J. Attao, Treasurer, Republican Party

Live The Fiesta Way!
Fiesta Resort & SPA Saipan
Presents
HAPPY HALLOWEEN!
OCT. 31, 2009 SATURDAY
At the Lobby of RESTAURANT PLAZA
choice of All You Can Eat Rib-Eye Sit Down Dinner
or A Steak Night Dinner Buffet
with a FREE glass of red or white wine
$19.98 p/p
Kids 4 - 11 yrs 50% discount
● Especially designed pumpkin and trick or treat games
● Win exciting prizes plus Gifts for the Best in Costumes
● Scariest, Cutest, Sexiest and By Pair
● Enjoy photo opportunities with our staff in the most horrifying costumes
● Registration Starts at 5pm and Dinner starts at 6pm
the Bund 外灘 CHINESE RESTAURANT
舞 JAPANESE RESTAURANT
World cafe
SEE YOU THERE!
FIESTA Resort & SPA SAIPAN
A TanHoldings Company
For reservations call 234-7171 ext. 1547 or 1548 and ask for Socorro or Verlyn.

Classes suspended due to storm condition

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

All classes in 20 public schools on Saipan, Rota, and Tinian were suspended yesterday due to the storm condition announced by the Emergency Management Office.

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan made the announcement before the start of classes yesterday morning.

Peter Le'au, PSS Associate Commissioner for Administrative Services, told *Saipan Tribune* that the suspension will last until all islands are cleared of the storm.

Besides the more than 10,000public school students, more than a thousand PSS employees were also asked not to report for work.

PSS also activated its emergency task force, which is stationed at the central office on Capitol Hill. The commissioner was also at the center to better monitor the situation of schools during the storm.

"Until we get all cleared, our schools will remain close," Le'au said.

Students will later be required to attend make-up classes for the lost credits.

Meantime, PSS school buses are on standby, ready to assist the community. These vehicles are used to evacuate residents to shelters.

Most of Saipan public schools are designated as evacuation centers during typhoon condition and other natural calamities.

At the Northern Marianas College, all classes in the main campus and in the two instructional sites were also cancelled yesterday.

NMC is home to over 800 students, including foreign enrollees. Instructional sites on Rota and Tinian, although closed to academic courses, still hold federal programs and other activities of the college.

Some private schools remained opened yesterday.

Marianas Baptist Academy did not call for any suspension of classes, along with the Saipan International School and Saipan Community School.

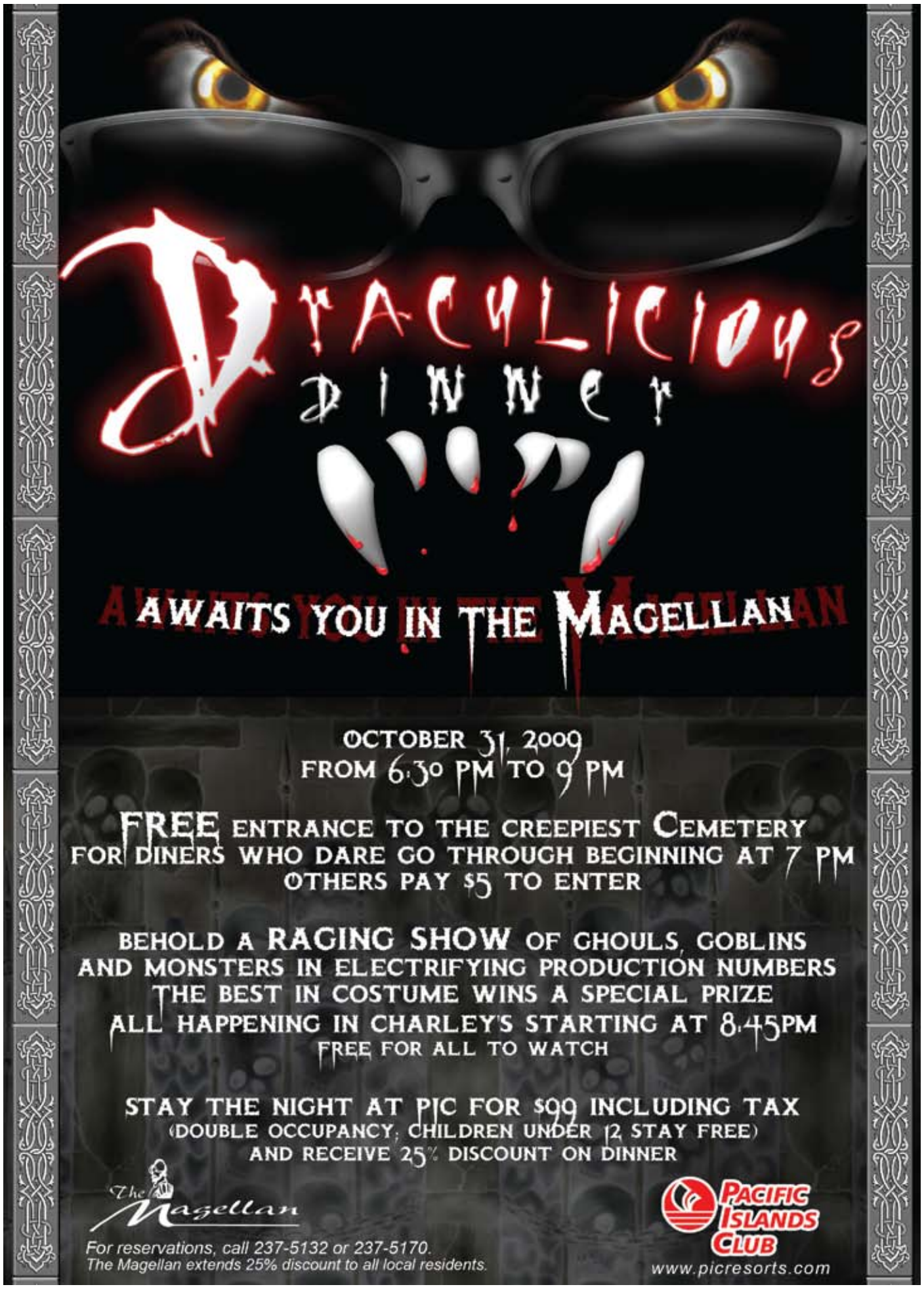
In other private schools such as Mount Carmel School and Grace Christian Academy, no one answered the phone when contacted several times by *Saipan Tribune*.

Eucon International School also cancelled classes yesterday, including its college.

Private schools are given the discretion to suspend or cancel classes during calamities.

The government cleared the islands of storm condition as of 3pm yesterday. All classes are expected to resume today at all levels.

"I want to go shopping!"
MAKE-A-WISH
Visit us at 865 S. Marine Dr.,
Orlean Pacific Plaza Ste. 104 Tamuning, Guam 96913
Tel: (671) 649-WISH • Fax: (671) 646-6293
Email: mawfguam@ite.net • www.wish.org
Office Hours: 8:30am-5:30pm, M-F daily
Saipan Tribune


Draculicious Dinner
AWAITS YOU IN THE MAGELLAN
OCTOBER 31, 2009
FROM 6:30 PM TO 9 PM
FREE ENTRANCE TO THE CREEPIEST CEMETERY
FOR DINERS WHO DARE GO THROUGH BEGINNING AT 7 PM
OTHERS PAY $5 TO ENTER
BEHOLD A RAGING SHOW OF GHOULS, GOBLINS
AND MONSTERS IN ELECTRIFYING PRODUCTION NUMBERS
THE BEST IN COSTUME WINS A SPECIAL PRIZE
ALL HAPPENING IN CHARLEY'S STARTING AT 8:45PM
FREE FOR ALL TO WATCH
STAY THE NIGHT AT PIC FOR $99 INCLUDING TAX
(DOUBLE OCCUPANCY; CHILDREN UNDER 12 STAY FREE)
AND RECEIVE 25% DISCOUNT ON DINNER
The Magellan
PACIFIC ISLANDS CLUB
For reservations, call 237-5132 or 237-5170.
The Magellan extends 25% discount to all local residents.
www.picresorts.com

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

OCT. 28, 1999

Tanapag cemetery off-limits

With only a few days left before All Soul's Day, Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio yesterday ordered the temporary closure of the Lower Base Cemetery to protect the people against possible contamination from polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), a cancer-causing chemical present in the area. Tanapag residents have demanded an immediate cleanup of the area as they condemned the U.S. Army Corps. of Engineers during a recent public hearing for failing to ensure that the people are safe from the harmful effects of PCBs. The governor has expressed concern on the lingering presence of PCBs at the cemetery, where there's a high concentration of toxic waste left way back in the '60s.

'PSS properties are for official use only'

Education Commissioner Rita Hocog-Inos yesterday warned public school teachers and other employees of the Public School System against using government resources for unofficial activities. She also said she will look into reports that a teacher at Hopwood Junior High School had used the school's fax machine to send a petition written by three inmates to Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio. "We don't endorse such kind of activities. We all know that we are not supposed to take advantage of public funds for personal gain," Inos said. Public Safety Commissioner Charles Ingram said last week his department is investigating Hopwood teacher Magdalena Concepcion, who allegedly faxed a handwritten petition from inmates Shawn Appleby, Melvin Basa, and Jeronimo Ada.

OCT. 28, 2002

Nonresidents face tighter check

The Department of Labor and Immigration has employed a stricter procedure in the issuance of permits to nonresident workers following the controversial entry of 39 Egyptians into Saipan. Reportedly, all permits now have to be personally reviewed by Division of Labor Director Dean Tenorio. Review and issuance of permits are previously done by the DOLI's processing unit. "It's one of the effects of the controversy. So, it takes a much longer time to process permits now," a government official said. In an interview, DOLI Secretary Joaquin A. Tenorio confirmed that the DOLI director "evaluates permits if necessary."

Ranking DPS officials leaving in Dec.?

The Department of Public Safety may be losing some of its most effective ranking officials, following reports that two police majors and five captains are eyeing a December 2002 retirement. The officials may be aptly called the police department's "brain power," since they occupy critical positions in the agency. They include commandership in several police functions, such as investigation, traffic, boating safety, operations and patrol. When asked about the reported retirement of the officials, DPS Commissioner Edward Camacho said there have been indications although he has not officially heard from the concerned officials yet.

OCT. 28, 2003

More security aid for islands

The CNMI, like other Pacific island nations, may benefit from more security aid from the federal government following the formation of a "millennium fund" reportedly earmarked to bolster the security needs of the Pacific region and other eligible recipients, press secretary Peter A. Callaghan reported. According to the public information officer, the potential assistance was bared by President Bush's National Security Advisor, Condoleezza Rice, when the president made an appearance at the Pacific Islands Leaders Conference in Hawaii last week. Gov. Juan N. Babauta and other Pacific heads of state attended that conference.

Feds evaluate CNMI Head Start program

A seven-member visiting Head Start team has begun its weeklong evaluation of the local program to see if it has complied with last year's recommendations amid findings of major deficiencies in implementation. Visiting team leader Richard Ybarra said in an interview that last year's findings showed that the local program' systems were "very dysfunctional" and in need of immediate repair. "We gave them a year to correct those," said Ybarra. On Friday, the visiting group will make public its new findings on the CNMI Head Start.

5 tips to enjoy your treat without playing tricks on your teeth

By LORI I. SERNA RDH, MEd.
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

October is a special month for me for two reasons. National Dental Hygiene month is celebrated in October but let's face it, the rest of the country is busy looking forward to celebrating one of my favorite if not my favorite pseudo holiday: Halloween! I love Halloween, in my opinion it is the one time of the year that everyone has an opportunity to be a child once again and give into the urge to dress up and be anyone you want to be for just one day. I have been dressing up for years and about 3 years ago I had the pleasure of coming to work dressed up as a cow, literally. I was about 8 months pregnant and so I had the belly to go with the costume.

As a dental professional what concerns me is the amount of candy that is consumed and handed out at parties or local events. Don't get me wrong I am not going to "rain on any parades," after all I did just say it is one of my favorite holidays. However I do want to share some tips for better dental health so you can enjoy the goodies without putting your teeth as well as your children's teeth at risk for those nasty cavities.

■ **Eat a variety of food.** Choose fruits, vegetables and healthy protein such as lean meats as well as nuts and low fat cheeses.

■ **Limit the number of snacks that you eat.** Each time you eat food that contains sugars, the teeth are attacked by acids for 20 minutes or more. This increases the chances of getting a cavity.

■ **When you snack, choose wisely.** If you do snack, choose nutritious foods, such as cheese, raw vegetables, plain yogurt, or a piece of fruit.

■ **Eat sweets with meals.** Foods that are eaten as part of a meal cause less harm. More saliva is released during a meal, which helps wash foods from the mouth and helps lessen the effects of the acids on your teeth.

■ **Brush twice a day and floss once.**

By following these simple tips you can prevent cavities as well as increase your oral health year round. Now get out there and have some fun. Happy trick-or-treating!

Lori Serna is a Dental Hygienist who works with the Saipan's SDA dental clinic, on improving dental care and well as awareness throughout the CNMI).

SHIPPING SCHEDULE

MARIANA EXPRESS LINES PTE. LTD.

Outbound from Asia	Voyage No.	ETD Jakarta	ETD Bangkok	ETD P. Kelang	ETD Melbourne	ETD Singapore	ETD Hochiminh	ETD Busan	ETD Kobe	ETD Shanghai	ETD Auckland	ETD Manila	ETD Hongkong	ETD Kaoshiung	ETD Naha
MELL SENOKO	029E	10/17 Sat	10/15 Thu	10/15 Thu	10/13 Tue	10/10 Sat	10/23 Fri	10/19 Mon	10/18 Sun	10/11 Sun	10/11 Sun	10/19 Mon	10/23 Fri	10/25 Sun	10/27 Tue
MELL SENTOSA	028E	10/24 Sat	10/22 Thu	10/22 Thu	10/20 Tue	10/17 Sat	10/30 Fri	10/26 Mon	10/25 Sun	10/18 Sun	10/18 Sun	10/26 Mon	10/30 Fri	11/1 Sun	11/3 Tue
MELL SEMBAWANG	021E	10/31 Sat	10/29 Thu	10/29 Thu	10/27 Tue	10/24 Sat	11/6 Fri	11/2 Mon	11/1 Sun	10/25 Sun	10/25 Sun	11/2 Mon	11/6 Fri	11/8 Sun	11/10 Tue
MELL SENOKO	030E	11/7 Sat	11/5 Thu	11/5 Thu	11/3 Tue	10/31 Sat	11/13 Fri	11/9 Mon	11/8 Sun	11/1 Sun	11/1 Sun	11/9 Mon	11/13 Fri	11/15 Sun	11/17 Tue
MELL SENTOSA	029E	11/14 Sat	11/12 Thu	11/12 Thu	11/10 Tue	11/7 Sat	11/20 Fri	11/16 Mon	11/15 Sun	11/8 Sun	11/8 Sun	11/16 Mon	11/20 Fri	11/22 Sun	11/24 Tue
MELL SEMBAWANG	022E	11/21 Sat	11/19 Thu	11/19 Thu	11/17 Tue	11/14 Sat	11/27 Fri	11/23 Mon	11/22 Sun	11/15 Sun	11/15 Sun	11/23 Mon	11/27 Fri	11/29 Sun	12/1 Tue

Inbound from Asia	Voyage No.	ETA Guam	ETD Guam	ETA Saipan	ETA Yap	ETA Koror	ETA Davao	ETA GenSan	ETA Cebu	ETA Hongkong	ETA Kaoshiung	ETA Busan	ETA Yokohama	ETA Manila	ETA Singapore
MELL SENOKO	029E	10/31 Sat	11/1 Sun	11/1 Sun	SKIP	11/4 Wed	11/6 Fri	11/8 Sun	SKIP	11/13 Fri	11/14 Sat	11/19 Thu	12/8 Tue	11/22 Sun	11/18 Wed
MELL SENTOSA	028E	11/7 Sat	11/8 Sun	11/8 Sun	11/10 Tue	11/11 Wed	11/13 Fri	11/15 Sun	SKIP	11/20 Fri	11/21 Sat	11/26 Thu	12/15 Tue	11/29 Sun	11/25 Wed
MELL SEMBAWANG	021E	11/14 Sat	11/15 Sun	11/15 Sun	SKIP	11/18 Wed	11/20 Fri	11/22 Sun	SKIP	11/27 Fri	11/28 Sat	12/3 Thu	12/22 Tue	12/6 Sun	12/2 Wed
MELL SENOKO	030E	11/21 Sat	11/22 Sun	11/22 Sun	11/24 Tue	11/25 Wed	11/27 Fri	11/29 Sun	SKIP	12/4 Fri	12/5 Sat	12/10 Thu	12/29 Tue	12/13 Sun	12/9 Wed
MELL SENTOSA	029E	11/28 Sat	11/29 Sun	11/29 Sun	SKIP	12/2 Wed	12/4 Fri	12/6 Sun	SKIP	12/11 Fri	12/12 Sat	12/17 Thu	1/5 Tue	12/20 Sun	12/16 Wed
MELL SEMBAWANG	022E	12/5 Sat	12/6 Sun	12/6 Sun	SKIP	12/9 Wed	12/11 Fri	12/13 Sun	SKIP	12/18 Fri	12/19 Sat	12/24 Thu	1/12 Tue	12/27 Sun	12/23 Wed

Weekly service. More frequent. More dependable.

Website: www.mariana-express.com

Exclusive General Agent of MELL

For bookings, you may call our Saipan agent:

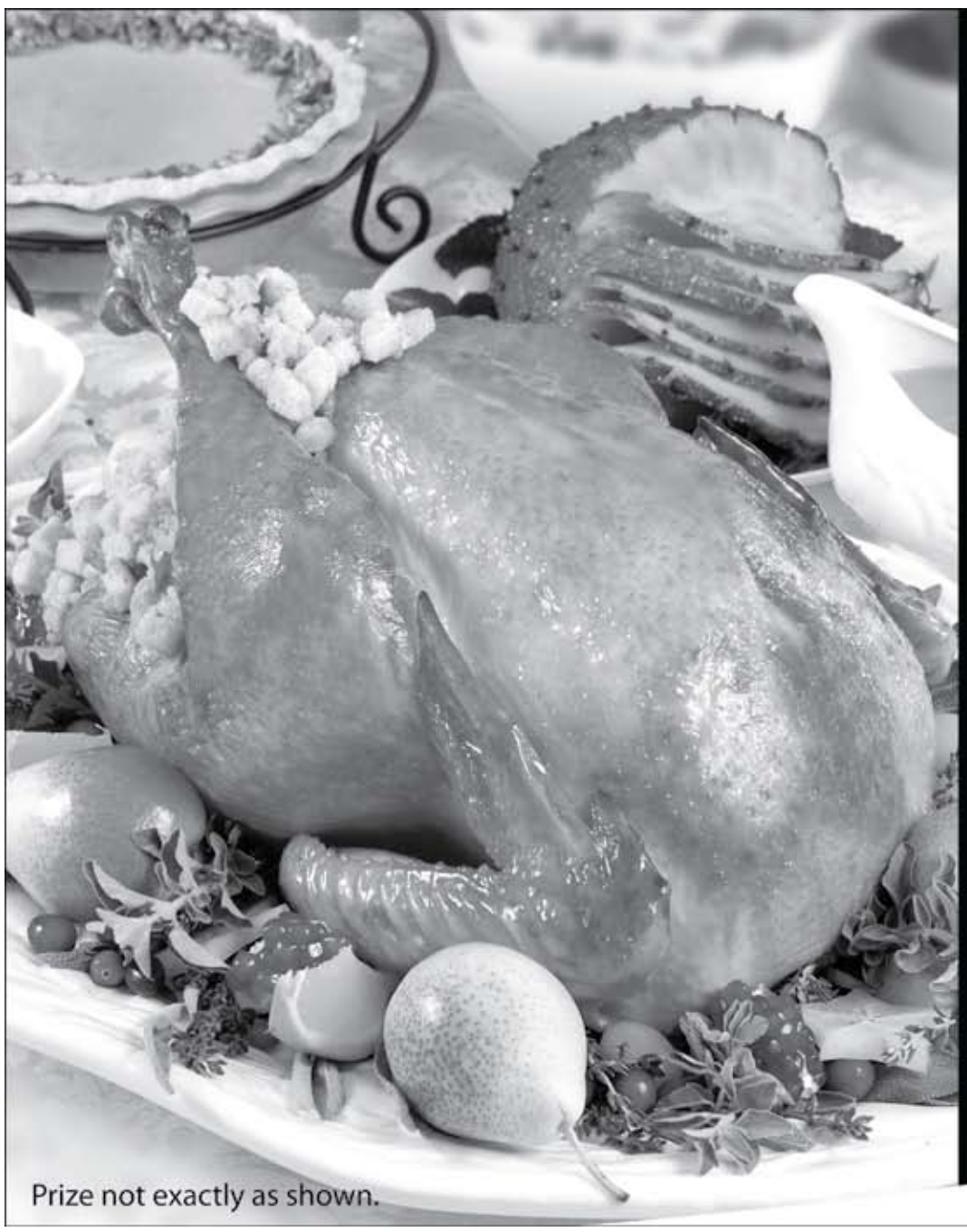
CTSI LOGISTICS,
CTSI Building, Lower Base,
P.O. Box 501937,
Saipan MP 96950
Website: www.ctsi-logistics.com

Edgar T. Garcia
Inbound
Direct line (670) 236-2422

Jaime P. Salazar
Outbound
Direct line (670) 236-2410

Leslie F. Rodriguez
Sales and Marketing
Direct line (670) 236-2402

CTSI Logistics
Moving the world



WIN A THANKSGIVING FEAST

Enter to win a Thanksgiving feast for you and your family! Get an entry form with a $15 purchase of fuel and C-Store items combined, at any Shell station. One prize package to be given away at each Shell station. No purchase necessary. See store for details.

Prize includes:
Turkey (12-14 lb.)
Picnic Ham (8-10 lb.)
Stuffing (4 lb.)
Mashed Potato (4 lb.)
Gravy (2 lb.)
Pumpkin Pie (2)

made to move

Prize not exactly as shown.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XIX, Issue No. 258

Published daily at 2/F JP Centre,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER

The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Pay pals

Take that, Wall Street: In a single day, the nation's financiers absorbed pay hits from both the Treasury Department (in the person of compensation czar Kenneth Feinberg) and the Federal Reserve. Mr. Feinberg capped the salaries of top executives of seven large bailed-out firms at $500,000, and pushed more of their stock compensation into the future. The Fed announced that it would conduct more aggressive oversight of compensation plans at bank holding companies, to make sure they do not encourage "undue" risk-taking, as Fed Chairman Ben S. Bernanke put it.

We don't doubt the political necessity of these steps, at a time when the Treasury is propping up huge companies with taxpayer dollars and the Fed is doing the same with its own balance sheet. Their actual impact is another question. Neither Mr. Feinberg's rulings nor the Fed's proposal are likely to be all that draconian in practice—nor should they be. If government cuts compensation too much, financial companies could not recruit and retain the talent they need if they are ever to get off government support. And all Americans should want that to happen as soon as possible, not least because the job of setting corporate compensation properly belongs to private shareholders, not government officials.

More broadly, the emphasis on corporate pay strikes us as exaggerated compared to other structural causes of the crisis. No doubt certain compensation schemes warped incentives in favor of risk-taking; consistent Fed monitoring might curb them. But that problem pales in comparison to the fact that companies such as Citigroup and Bank of America became "too big to fail." As long as they were perceived to pose systemic risk, the market banked on their eventual rescue by Uncle Sam—correctly, as it turned out.

We need a fundamental solution to this fundamental problem, but nothing stronger than the Obama administration's call for the Fed to serve as a "systemic risk" regulator has yet emerged. Mervyn King, the governor of the Bank of England, is calling for the separation of banks into tightly regulated commercial banking arms and less regulated, risk-taking—but also non-bailoutable—investment entities. Such a structure was enshrined in the United States until the Glass-Steagall Act was repealed in 1999. Paul Volcker, the former Fed chairman and now adviser to President Obama, has been making similar suggestions.

There would be significant obstacles to resurrecting Glass-Steagall, including drawing precise and stable boundaries between more and less risky activities. But when the idea emanates from the likes of Mr. King and Mr. Volcker, it might be worth a second hearing.

(c) 2009, The Washington Post

With cancer, it's always personal

By PAUL LIEBERMAN
SPECIAL TO THE LOS ANGELES TIMES

The American Cancer Society tried to downplay news reports last week that it was toning down its endorsement of the long-ballyhooed screening tests for breast cancer in women and prostate cancer in men. But in a statement, the group acknowledged that the "advantages of screening for some cancers have been overstated."

Like many other Americans, my first response was: What about me?

Medical authorities have "overpromised" and "exaggerated," in the words of a top Cancer Society official, the benefits of mammograms for women and PSA blood tests for men. The popular tests, it seems, too often result in over-treatment of milder cancers while failing to prevent enough deaths from the most aggressive types.

That was the same conclusion reached by studies, published last spring, that tracked 259,000 men for almost a decade and found no significant difference in prostate cancer death rates between those who had PSA monitoring and those not screened at all. The yearly blood tests instead resulted in a profusion of questionable radiation treatments and surgery directed at men whose prostate cancer was unlikely to kill them. A nine-year European portion of the research calculated that regular screening led doctors to subject dozens of men to arguably unnecessary operations or radiation—with potentially serious urinary and sexual side effects—for every life saved.

To be specific, doctors had to screen 1,400 men and treat 48 less-serious cancer cases, with all the nasty consequences—perhaps doing more harm than good—to save one solitary life.

How do you argue with that sort of science, that sort of cost-benefit analysis?

Well, maybe you do if yours was the one life saved. Which brings us back to: What about me?

Three years ago, a routine blood test found that my PSA (prostate-specific antigen) level had jumped since my last screening. Although it still was in the "normal" range, my internist thought I should be checked further. A urologist decided a biopsy was prudent and called days later with the results, along with a common line given new prostate cancer patients to soften the blow, "You will die someday, but this isn't going to kill you."

Then he added the gut-punch: While my tumor was small, some cells were the "aggressive" variety, a finding later confirmed by pathology tests after I opted for surgery (and quickly). Despite the initial reassurance, this indeed was the type primed to spread to the bone and elsewhere, a type of cancer expected to kill 28,000 men in the U.S. this year, according to the Cancer Society. The good news was that the tissue surrounding my prostate was clear, and so were nearby lymph nodes. There was no guarantee it would not return someday—they give you this wonderful chart listing the likelihood year by year—but the odds are in my favor.

In other words: The deadly form. Found (seemingly) in time. Thanks to routine screening.

Of course, there are plenty of other cases like that of a cousin of mine who received his diagnosis 15 years ago, a time when many people still only whispered the word "cancer" and shook their heads at the poor victim. Well, after I joined the crowd and studied up on the fine print of the disease, I learned that he hardly even had registered a Gleason score, the measure of prostate cancer aggressiveness. He very well may not have needed the radioactive seeds doctors implanted in him and that have caused him complications since.

The exhaustive studies published in the New England Journal of Medicine probably will prompt more "watchful waiting," rather than treatment, in insignificant cases like his. With 186,000 American men expected to be diagnosed with prostate cancer this year, most will think twice—at least—before proceeding with surgery or radiation that can bring on impotence and urinary incontinence. The big picture conceivably could prompt insurance companies to reconsider the care they will cover for the majority of men found to have very slow-growing forms of the disease. Certainly, more men will feel comfortable ignoring the public service announcements urging them to obtain yearly PSA tests once they reach 40—if we continue to hear such urgings at all.

But thank goodness I didn't take that approach.

With breast cancer, meanwhile, a "special communication" in the latest Journal of the American Medical Association reports that the mass screening of women in recent decades has resulted in a 40 percent jump in detection of breast cancer and far more treatment for the early stage "low-risk" variety. But that increase in early detection has come "without significantly reducing the burden of more aggressively growing cancers and therefore not resulting in the anticipated reduction in cancer mortality." The article in the AMA journal calls for new approaches to screening for breast cancer—and prostate cancer too.

I won't argue with the experts, but I will say this: The call for reconsideration of routine mammogram screening came out this week just as my wife was completing the second phase of surgery for breast cancer. As with me, routine screening—in her case an annual mammogram—prompted additional tests and early discovery of cancer. Pathology tests found no evidence that it had spread, but her tumor cells—like mine—registered high on the scary scale. We're quite a couple.

So perhaps we should view those huge, important studies as a Seurat painting. Only when you get real close do you see the individual dots. From that perspective, the big picture looks different.

Let's make it: What about us?

Lieberman, a former Los Angeles Times *staff writer, lives in New York.*

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, CIC Centre, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Butterflies do fly

The only way to take control of your life, raise your standard of living and move beyond merely surviving is to create your own unique product or service that you offer to increasing numbers of people in exchange for the things of value that you desire. This simple formula applies to countries as well as people. A self-sufficient economy has its own products or services of value to export to the world. Similarly, a self-sufficient individual has something of value to exchange in the global marketplace. That thing of value is based on your natural talent, skill, or interest—in other words, your passion!

It may seem quite presumptuous
but still, just hear me out
The only thing that's stopping you
is that you're plagued with doubt

You need no one's approval
for the things you want to do
The most the world can tell you
is what THEY'VE seen to be true

But trust me when I tell you
less than you have tried and won
They simply chose to disregard
what men said can't be done

Accept someone's opinion
you accept their truths and fears
Don't be surprised if, therefore, you live
not YOUR life but theirs!

Again there's no one out there
who can know what you can do
The only expert in your life
You got it, friend: It's you!

For butterflies DO fly quite well
despite what experts say
Without a doubt you too can fly
and have things go your way!

So, guidance? Yes. Approval? No.
Don't switch the two again
And from now on the question is
not "if", but "how" and "when!"

"How much money do you think I can make in my business?" "Do you think I'll be successful as an artist?" "Do I have the right personality type to lead my team?"

I often get questions like that from customers and clients who seek my input on their undertakings.

In listening to one particular client's questions last week, it became evident that despite many of the great ideas and dreams she had over the years, she never pursued them to her own satisfaction. In determining what was holding her back, I realized that, as a result of her own feelings about her potential, she was asking for input from others in a distinct way. It seemed she was awaiting the approval of others she assumed were further ahead in the journey, or whom she thought somehow had a handle on what was possible for her. She wasn't asking for advice or guidance, but rather approval and permission.

The suggestion I offered to her—and to you—is that the ultimate determining factor in whether you succeed at a particular task is not what others think is possible for you, but rather the degree of personal conviction with which you pursue your goals. There is no expert who can predict what you are capable of. There is no guru who can intuit whether you've got what it takes to be successful.

THE SAIPANPRENEUR PROJECT

Creating economic success for the CNMI

By WALT F.J. GOODRIDGE
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Send article suggestions, entrepreneur nominations and feedback about this article to walt@passionprofit.com.

Even "known" laws of physics are limited by human perception. According to a piece I once read, the butterfly's body design and wing structure violates all principles of aerodynamics. In other words, according to "expert" opinion, butterflies can't fly. But fly they do, don't they?

■ ■ ■

Note: Fans and followers of the book, Chicken Feathers and Garlic Skin: Diary of a Chinese Garment Factory Girl on Saipan may now request copies here on Saipan by emailing me walt@passionprofit.com, or Amazon.com.

Note: Ever wanted to direct your friends and family to a set of websites that said good things about Saipan? Do what I do: send them to www.bestofsaipan.com!

■ ■ ■

Until next week, remember, success is a journey, not a destination!

Walt F.J. Goodridge is author of 15 books including Turn Your Passion Into Profit. Walt offers coaching and workshops to help people pursue and profit from their passions. Originally from the island of Jamaica, Walt has grown several successful businesses in the US, and now makes his home here in Saipan. To learn more about the Saipanpreneur Project and Walt's philosophy and formula visit www.saipanpreneur.com and www.passionprofit.com.

Letters to the Editor

Canary in a coal mine

This is in response to the Oct. 26 opinion piece titled "Are we going back to the fast buck days?" by Anthony Pellegrino. For the most part, I would agree with everything Mr. Pellegrino observed and expressed in his article. However, what he failed to mention in his letter is what really caught my eye.

To his credit, he understands the most simplistic rule of maintaining a viable economy. You need more money coming in then going out. This is especially applicable to an isolated location such as Saipan. One only needs to look at the current dilemma in the United States to see the long term negative effects of a trade imbalance (imports exceed exports). And as usual, no one wants to talk about the negative effect of imported labor. I'm not suggesting that foreign workers are not worthy of respect or equal and fair treatment; rather, I am questioning their true economic benefit.

First, if you hire a local worker, that money will for the most part stay in the local economy. Foreign workers on the other hand are notorious for "currency transactions" or "remittances" back to the homeland. That's money taken out of the local economy and dispersed somewhere else. It does nothing to support or create new wealth in the local economy where it was first earned. This is a big negative, and anyone who understands the principles of an enclosed and isolated island economy like that which is found on Saipan would understand what I am saying.

Personally, I subscribe to the notion that for every problem, there is a solution. Is it beyond the powers of the CNMI to implement a tax on currency transactions going off island? Is it beyond the powers of the CNMI to implement a "new resident impact tax" on new arrivals who desire to work or reside in the CNMI?

The balancing act is difficult. On one hand you need cheap labor to keep the interest of potential investors, on the other hand you are giving up your autonomy by turning a blind eye to the obvious long term effects. Overall, wouldn't you agree that the global economy is dangerous to your island? One day you are basking in the revenues generated by tourist arrivals, the next day you are isolated by a policy change, a pandemic, a new immigration ruling, a major earthquake, or whatever may happen. A prime example would be your garment industry.

Mr. Pellegrino seems to be the proverbial canary in the coal mine. He's right, you know. You would be best to take this time and listen to something other than the flash of a quick dollar. What good is local pride if it is nothing more than a slogan? It all comes down to being truly independent. Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime.

Jim Vandenburg
Chicago, IL

Call for assistance

The Bicol Association in the Northern Mariana Islands, Inc. (Bianmi, Inc.) would like to ask for your voluntary monetary donation for the untimely death of Lito Falalimpa, husband of Mariel Mapa of San Fernando, Naga City, on Oct. 24, 2009 (see *Saipan Tribune* report Oct. 26). Mr. Falalimpa is a long time and dependable employee of a construction company. He was one of the generous volunteer-workers at the time when the Bicol Association was constructing the Bicol Pavilion. He left behind two small kids, 6 years old and 3 years old.

While Mr. Falalimpa's employer is committed to extend full support to Mr. Falalimpa's burial and or repatriation services as an employer, it will be difficult for the company to shoulder all the burden of the family members such as the two kids. The deceased's wife, Mariel, is displaced garment worker from Sako Corp. who is jobless at this very moment.

We, as brothers and sisters, would like to ask for voluntary monetary assistance to the widow of Mr. Falalimpa, who is now taking care of their children without a breadwinner. Your donations will help a lot for their daily needs until such time that Mariel and her kids can finally settle down. Thank you.

Dropoff point for donations:

1) WIRES/PNB Oleai near Marianas Printing c/o Jun dela Cruz, 287-1876

2) Coolcare Auto Airconditioning, Quartermaster c/o Marivic Soriano, 235-5328

3) Jaye N. Bautista, Ever Clean Laundry, Dandan, 286-8564

4) Lito Marquez, Power Plant 4, Puerto Rico, 286-6337

5) Mariel Falalimpa, As Lito, 789-5097

Carlito J. Marquez
Puerto Rico, Saipan

Thank you

The members of the Saipan Southern High School Manta Band wish to sincerely thank the participants of the Biennial Judicial Council. It was an honor to perform for your honor(s). We hope you enjoyed the music as much as we enjoyed performing it. Your support of our Carnegie Hall effort is much appreciated and we hope to represent all of the Commonwealth at the highest level in New York City next year. Special thanks to Chief Justice Demapan and Mr. Jim Stowell for the invite this week! We hope that each of your off-island guests enjoys the CNMI's hospitality all week long.

Will DeWitt
Fina Sisu, Saipan

No justice on Saipan

I recently read the article about a "notorious ex-convict" Marlon Martin, who was arrested again for trying to rob a pawnshop. He almost got away with $6,000 cash. What really shocked me was to read that the same guy has been charged with robbing three different poker arcades in January 2008, another arcade in June 2007, and a residence in February 2007! What is going on here? How can a guy, and his friends, be guilty of such violent crimes and be walking around on the streets? This is just pathetic and it reflects poorly on our judicial system.

It seems like all the other recent crimes, purse-snatchings, etc. are usually due to either ex-cons or people with bad records. Isn't it time to actually put these criminals away and keep our locals safe? Sorry if I sound like a Republican but enough is enough!

So many people on Saipan are trying to beautify, improve, develop, and market our island chain as a peaceful and beautiful tourist destination. Unfortunately, tourists don't want to come to a place with criminals walking around who only get a slap on the wrist for violating their sense of security. Does anybody remember when the Japanese government blacklisted Saipan as a tourist destination due to crime? Duh! Everybody still wonders why the Japanese left. Hmmm... Besides the government changing the business rules all the time, and the deteriorating infrastructure, do you think personal security is an issue? You betcha!

Dr. Michael Hall
Garapan, Saipan

Self-contradicting

Dear Dr. Arkle: I find you letter to be self-contradicting. In your second paragraph, you state that I "attempt to cajole the public into thinking that the current lawsuit will cost everyone more money if CUC loses."

Yet you state in a subsequent paragraph, "The worm in the appointment (in addition to the fly) is that whether the funding [to pay for the credits or refunds] comes from rates charged or from the Legislature, its ultimate source is us, the people, all of us."

It appears that in your subsequent statement, you agree with me that if CUC loses the lawsuit—then CUC customers or the taxpayers will have to pay for the credits or the refund. Thank you for agreeing. CUC loses, the CUC customer loses, and taxpayer loses. Where is the win in the lawsuit? Even Stanley Torres and Jack Angello will lose since they will have to pay back credits afforded them on their bill when CUC has to raise rates or the government has to raise taxes to pay for the credits or refund. Who wins in this lawsuit?

Then you detail eight areas I should be working on to improve CUC. I really have nine areas—don't forget the lawsuit.

Antonio S. Muna
CUC Executive Director

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Mostly cloudy and breezy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Southeast winds 20 to 25 mph.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲85° ▼77°	▲86° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Showers	▲84	▼76
Palau	Partly Sunny	▲87	▼77
Yap	Partly Sunny	▲88	▼77
Chuuk	Rain	▲88	▼77
Pohnpei	Thundershowers	▲88	▼75
Kosrae	Showers	▲88	▼77
Majuro	Rain	▲85	▼78

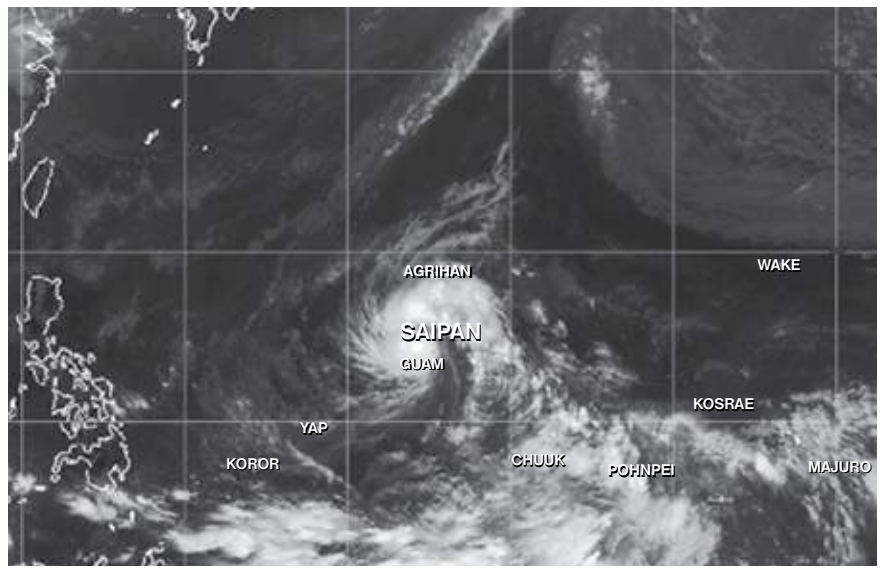
Around The Globe

Auckland	Sunny	▲62	▼49
Beijing	Sunny	▲75	▼46
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲84	▼75
Honolulu	Showers	▲83	▼73
London	Showers	▲64	▼54
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲68	▼48
Manila	Mostly Sunny	▲87	▼75
Melbourne	Partly Sunny	▲76	▼53
Miami	Thundershowers	▲88	▼77
New York	Rain	▲57	▼54
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲68	▼53
Paris	Cloudy	▲64	▼53
Pusan	Mostly Cloudy	▲70	▼55
Rome	Sunny	▲69	▼48
Salem	Mostly Cloudy	▲53	▼41
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲67	▼50
Seoul	Partly Sunny	▲64	▼48
Tokyo	Sunny	▲66	▼54
Washington, DC	Rain	▲62	▼52

Tides

Saipan Harbor		
2:18 AM Today	High Tide:	1.4 Feet
9:14 AM Today	Low Tide:	0.4 Feet
4:18 PM Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
10:39 PM Today	Low Tide:	0.9 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2009
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Tropical Storm 23W with maximum sustained winds of 40 mph is centered just northwest of Rota at 14N145E. Numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms are found between 13N and 18N from 143E to 150E. For more information on Tropical Storm 23W, see JTWC bulletins issued under WMO header WTPN32 PGTW and NWS bulletins issued under WMO header WTPQ32 PGUM. A monsoon trough extends eastward from 6N130E to 5N143E then curves northeastward to 10N150E then southeastward through a weak circulation at 5N168E to end near EQ173E. Convergent low-level winds are triggering scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms from south of Palau to near Chuuk and Pohnpei and southwest of Kosrae in an area between the equator and a line from 4N130E to 4N148E to 10N154E to 4N163E. Trade-wind convergence is generating scattered showers across the Marshall Islands between 5N and 10N from 170E to 180. A weak cold front just north of Wake Island curves westward from 23N180 to 21N173E to 22N160E to northwestward beyond 25N at 156E. Cloudiness and patchy rain are occurring along and up to 250 miles north of the front.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:12 AM	5:50 PM
Thursday	6:12 AM	5:49 PM
Friday	6:12 AM	5:49 PM
Saturday	6:13 AM	5:48 PM
Sunday	6:13 AM	5:48 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	1:59 PM	1:12 AM
Thursday	2:34 PM	2:00 AM
Friday	3:10 PM	2:48 AM
Saturday	3:47 PM	3:36 AM
Sunday	4:26 PM	4:27 AM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 26, 2009

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

C09597	11:50am	12:25pm	1, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM

C09597	12:50pm	1:20pm	1, 7

SAIPAN-GUAM

C09317	4:20am	5:10am	Daily
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
C09597	11:50am	1:20pm	1, 7 via ROP
C09601	12:30pm	1:20pm	4, 5
C09603	3:30pm	4:20pm	Daily
C09605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)

OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	1, 3, 4, 6

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	1, 3, 4, 6 via KIX
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

CZ3008	3:30am	6:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA

OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN
OZ604/703	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/933	3:30pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

C09598	3:15am	3:50am	5, 6
C09312	1:20pm	1:55pm	6

GUAM-ROTA (ROP)

C09598	2:10am	2:40am	5, 6
C09312	12:10pm	12:40pm	6

GUAM-SAIPAN

C09598	2:10am	3:50am	5, 6 via ROP
C09316	2:20am	3:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 7
C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
C09600	10:20am	11:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
C09312	12:10pm	1:55pm	6 via ROP
C09602	2:00pm	2:50pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN

OZ120	9:55pm	2:20am+1	2, 3, 5, 7

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	4, 7
OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	2, 3, 5, 7 via KIX
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

CZ3007	7:30pm	2:40am+1	1, 5

MANILA-SAIPAN

OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/C09596	10:10pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM
OZ704/605	11:50pm	2:30pm+1	3, 6 via ICN

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/605	12:30am	2:30pm	4, 7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-Rota			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

Compact impact grants released to Hawaii, Guam

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas Anthony M. Babauta has sent a letter to Governors Linda Lingle and Felix Camacho to notify them that they will be receiving 11,228,742 and $16,827,026 in Compact Impact funding for Hawaii and Guam respectively.

Section 104 (e) of Title One of the amended Compacts of Free Association describes financial assistance, otherwise known as the Compact Impact grant, as committed by the U.S. government to Hawaii, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa. The goal of the grant is to provide through 2023 $30 million in grants to affected jurisdictions to aid in defraying costs incurred as a result of increased demands placed on health, educational, social, or public sector services, or infrastructure related to such services, due to the residence of qualified non-immigrants from the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, or Palau.

Distribution of the $30 million is based on a ratio allocation to the government of each affected jurisdiction on the basis of the results of the most recent enumeration. At a minimum, enumerations must be conducted every five years. The most recent enumeration was completed in Fiscal Year 2009 by the U.S. Census Bureau and the results were used to determine the distribution of the $30 million for FY 2010.

The Compact Impact grant payments for the Northern Mariana Islands and American Samoa are still pending. ***(DOI)***

FHB vice chair named honorary goodwill ambassador for Guam

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Gov. Felix Camacho, second from right, presents First Hawaiian Bank vice chair Anthony Guerrero Jr., second from left, the title of Honorary Ambassador-of-Goodwill for Guam.

HAGATNA, Guam—Gov. Felix Camacho recently bestowed upon First Hawaiian Bank vice chair Anthony Guerrero Jr. the title of Honorary Ambassador-of-Goodwill for Guam, one of only seven people to hold this title.

"This is in recognition of Tony Guerrero's dedication and commitment to the island of Guam through his outstanding leadership at First Hawaiian Bank," said Camacho. "Over the years, Tony has worked diligently to form a stronger partnership between First Hawaiian Bank and Guam, which has led to greater community support and opportunities here on the island."

Guerrero joined First Hawaiian Bank as a management trainee in 1967. Over his 42 year banking career, he has held various position within the branch network before heading up the Branch Operations Division, directly overseeing the bank's operations on Guam. In 1994, First Hawaiian Bank built its first bank-owned building, the five-story First Hawaiian Bank Maite Building, which is home to the Maite Banking Center. The bank further underscored its commitment to Guam with the recent construction of the new Tamuning Branch, which opened in 2008.

"I am grateful to have had a hand in building our operations in Guam and CNMI over the past three decades," Guerrero said in accepting the honor. "I was fortunate to have met several fine individuals of Chamorro decent during my years at the University of Portland, including former governor Joseph Ada, former lt. governor Frank Blas, and the late senator Tony Unpingco. This was the beginning of a lifelong friendship with these gentlemen who, in turn, were able to help me establish our presence here. I firmly believe that our bank is successful in Micronesia today due to the excellent local management team that sets us apart from the other financial institutions on island."

First Hawaiian Bank continues to support the Guam community with its sponsorship of the annual Guam Auto Show, Ginefli'e I Tano the annual realtor recognition event, the Primera Wellness Fair for seniors and the Businesswoman of the Year, which raises scholarship funds to the University of Guam and Guam Community College.

First Hawaiian Bank (fhb.com) is one of the largest banks in Micronesia with three branches on Guam and two on Saipan. The bank has assets of $13.6 billion. ***(FHB)***

HONEST EMPLOYEES

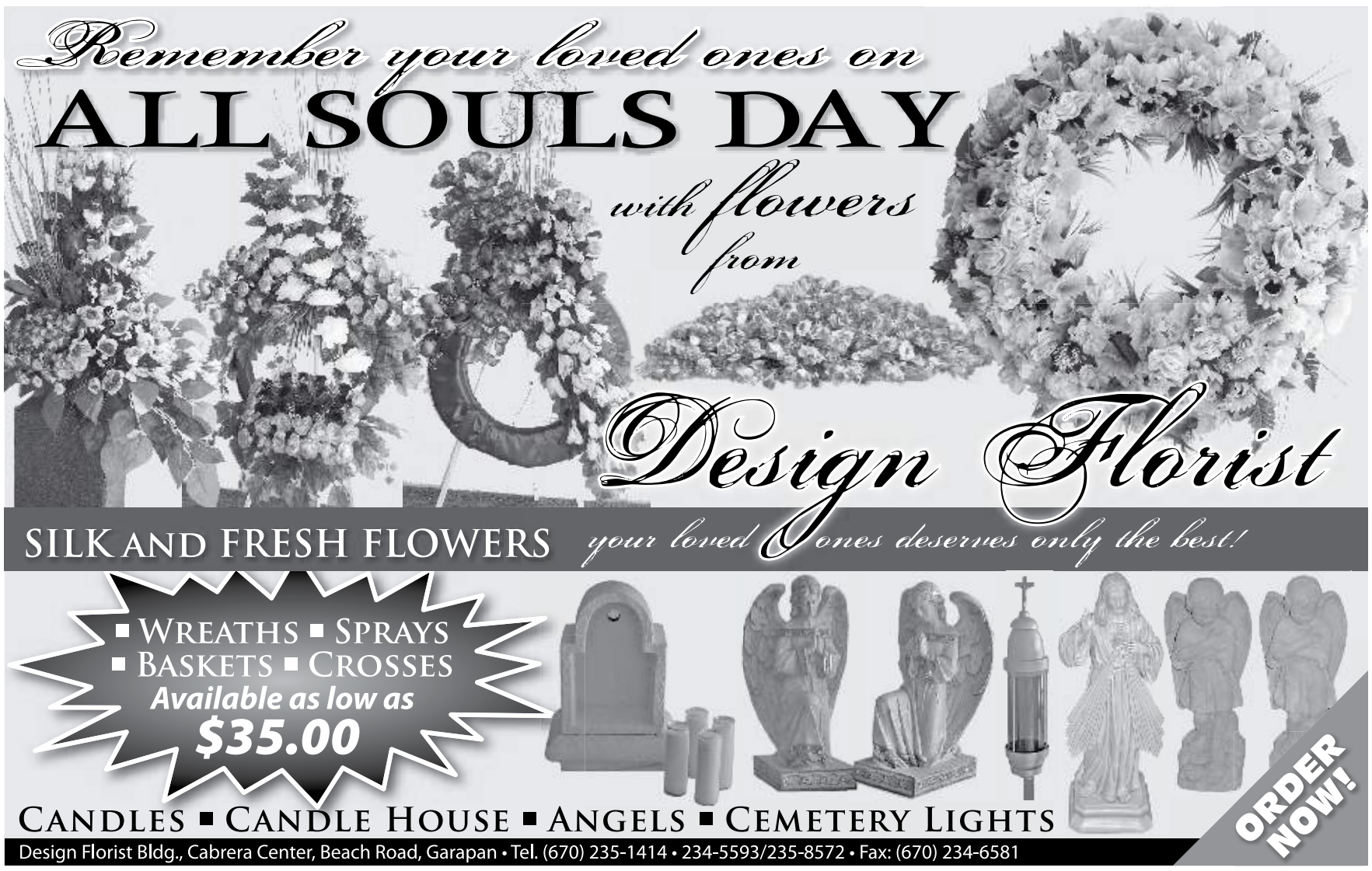
Employees of Century Hotel are recognized for their honesty and integrity after a local guest from Rota retrieved a digital camera that he left behind in his hotel room drawer. All employees in this picture contributed toward assisting the guest locate the digital camera, which has been missing for over a week.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Left, happy birthday to Brian Michael N. Concepcion of Lacey, Washington, who is celebrating his 4th birthday today, Oct. 28! Wishing you the best on your special day! Warm greetings come from your parents, Aldebert Attao Concepcion Jr. and Carminadela Q. Nekai-Concepcion; your brothers Aldebert III and Joseph; and the rest of your Chalan Piao family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO


Remember your loved ones on
ALL SOULS DAY
with flowers from
Design Florist
SILK AND FRESH FLOWERS
your loved ones deserves only the best!
■ WREATHS ■ SPRAYS
■ BASKETS ■ CROSSES
Available as low as
$35.00
CANDLES ■ CANDLE HOUSE ■ ANGELS ■ CEMETERY LIGHTS
ORDER NOW!
Design Florist Bldg., Cabrera Center, Beach Road, Garapan • Tel. (670) 235-1414 • 234-5593/235-8572 • Fax: (670) 234-6581

Business

Madoff associate had heart attack, drowned in pool

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP)—A man accused of making more than $7 billion off the investment schemes of jailed financial manager Bernard Madoff drowned after having a heart attack, authorities said Monday.

Madoff

Jeffry Picower, 67, was found around noon Sunday by his wife, Barbara, at the bottom of a pool at their oceanside mansion.

"He's at the bottom of the pool. It's too deep. I can't get him out," she cried hysterically on the 911 call. "He must have collapsed ... I can't get him out ... I don't know how long he's been there."

She eventually pulled him from the water with help from a housekeeper. He died a short time later at a nearby hospital.

An autopsy conducted Monday found he suffered a heart attack and drowned, said Dr. Michael Bell, chief medical examiner for Palm Beach County. The death has been ruled accidental, and the heart attack was brought on by heart disease. Toxicology tests are pending.

"Obviously, we won't have results for a couple of weeks but we don't anticipate them showing anything," Bell said. "If they do and it shows something unusual, we will amend the death certificate to reflect that."

Police had been investigating the death, pending the autopsy results. They now say the case is closed.

"Right now, that's it for us," said Janet Kinsella, a spokeswoman for the Palm Beach Police Department.

Picower had been accused by Madoff investors of being the biggest beneficiary of Madoff's schemes. In a lawsuit to recover Madoff's assets, trustee Irving Picard demanded Picower return more than $7 billion in bogus profits. Picard has said the litigation would continue.

Picower suffered from Parkinson's disease and had "heart-related issues," said family attorney William D. Zabel. He described Picower's health as "poor."

Picower's home and property is worth more than $33 million, according to the county records. He was No. 371 on the 2009 Forbes 400 list of the wealthiest Americans, with a net worth of $1 billion.

3 former Marsh executives acquitted of bid-rigging

NEW YORK (AP)—Three former executives of insurance broker Marsh Inc. were acquitted Monday of bid-rigging, price-fixing and other charges following an 11-month trial in Manhattan.

Attorney Jerry Bernstein said his client, Joseph Peiser, former head of excess casualty at Marsh, and two subordinates were acquitted in a bench trial by State Supreme Court Judge James Yates.

Peiser, Greg Doherty and Kathleen Drake were indicted in 2005 by then-New York Attorney General Eliot Spitzer. The defendants were among eight former Marsh executives accused of colluding with brokers at American International Group Inc. and other major insurance companies to arrange noncompetitive bids for corporate customers.

Bernstein said Monday that Peiser feels "ecstatic and vindicated."

Attorneys for Doherty and Drake didn't immediately respond for a request for comment. A spokesman for the office of the current New York AG, Andrew Cuomo, couldn't immediately be reached for comment.

Peiser and Doherty had faced a maximum sentence of 25 years in state prison if convicted. Drake faced a maximum of 15 years in prison.

Senators differ on extending homebuyer tax credit

WASHINGTON (AP)—Top Democrats in the Senate are pressing a plan that would extend a popular tax credit for first-time homebuyers but gradually phase it out over the course of next year.

The proposal, by Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., and Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus, D-Mont., would extend the $8,000 tax credit—which expires Nov. 30—through March 31. Its value would drop by $2,000 for each of the subsequent three quarters of 2010.

The plan, which could face a vote in the Senate this week, appears aimed at countering a far more generous $17 billion bipartisan plan that would extend the $8,000 credit through June 30, 2010, boost the income cap for eligibility and open the credit to all buyers, rather than first-timers.

Senators are manuevering to add the homebuyer tax credit extension to legislation to extend unemployment benefits by up to 20 weeks. That bill faces a key test vote on Tuesday.

Supporters say the tax credit has helped revive the housing market and say that if it's cut off as scheduled at the end of next month, home sales could drop off.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Verizon profit falls 30 pct. on restructuring costs

Verizon Communications Inc. reported a 30 percent drop in third-quarter earnings Monday as it couldn't sign up enough new subscribers to offset higher costs from laying off workers and absorbing an acquisition. The nation's second-largest phone company is evolving its business—managing the downturn of its landline phone business and putting more emphasis on cell phones and its fiber-optic FiOS TV and Internet service. Verizon said it is halfway through cutting the jobs of more than 8,000 employees and contractors by year's end. The last three months amounted to a "good balancing" quarter for the company as it tries to get a better feel for what it needs to do, Verizon CEO Ivan Seidenberg said. "We have better line of sight now," he said. ***(PR)***

Oil hovers below $79 after 3-day slide

SINGAPORE (AP)—Oil prices lingered below $79 a barrel Tuesday in Asia after three days of losses as investors eyed a volatile U.S. dollar. Benchmark crude for December delivery rose 12 cents to $78.80 a barrel at midday Singapore time in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract fell $1.82 to settle at $78.68 on Monday. Crude jumped to a 12-month high at $82 a barrel last week as the dollar weakened amid concerns that massive global stimulus spending will eventually spark inflation. Since oil is priced in dollars, a drop in the U.S. currency makes it cheaper to international investors.

Stocks slide as rising dollar hits oil prices

NEW YORK (AP)—A strengthening dollar and worries about an overheated market pounded stocks. Stock indexes started higher Monday but turned sharply lower at midmorning as a rebound in the value of the dollar stalled a rally in commodities. Early gains in prices for oil and other commodities had pushed up shares of energy and materials companies. The sharp swings in currency and commodities markets sent the Dow Jones industrial average whipsawing in a 200-point range, surrendering an early advance for a loss of 104 points. Stocks have fallen in four of the last five days.

Nation

Obama says he will not rush Afghanistan decision

AP
President Barack Obama speaks at the Jacksonville Naval Air Station, Monday, Oct. 26, 2009, in Jacksonville, Fla.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP)—President Barack Obama mourned 14 Americans killed Monday in helicopter crashes in Afghanistan and told a military audience he will not be hurried as he evaluates whether to alter U.S. strategy in the war.

"I will never rush the solemn decision of sending you into harm's way. I won't risk your lives unless it is absolutely necessary," Obama said during a visit to Naval Air Station Jacksonville.

Obama is nearing a decision on whether to commit large numbers of additional troops to the war next year. His top military commander in Afghanistan favors an increase of roughly 40,000, officials have told The Associated Press, which would allow the U.S. military to expand its reach in areas of the country's south and east now under Taliban sway.

Obama's visit to the naval air station came after he convened another in a series of White House war council sessions with about a half-dozen Cabinet officials and other top advisers earlier Monday amid Republican criticism that he is taking too long to choose his next move.

The Situation Room session focused on the cooperation between U.S. military and civilian efforts in Afghanistan, White House officials said. Another session may be held later this week.

Obama did not tip his hand on how he might decide. White House press secretary Robert Gibbs told reporters that a decision was still expected in the coming weeks.

A war plan that asks Obama to commit tens of thousands of additional U.S. forces to Afghanistan is too ambitious, a top Senate Democrat said in Washington on Monday.

Sen. John Kerry, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee chairman who was the White House's point man during last week's tense talks with Afghan President Hamid Karzai, praised commanding Gen. Stanley McChrystal but said his plan for adding troops in Afghanistan "goes too far, too fast."

Senate health care bill to include public option

WASHINGTON (AP)—Health care legislation heading for the Senate floor will give millions of Americans the option of purchasing government-run insurance coverage, Majority Leader Harry Reid announced Monday, although he stopped short of claiming the 60 votes needed to pass a plan steeped in controversy. Reid, D-Nev., said individual states would have the choice of opting out of the program.

His announcement was cheered by liberal lawmakers, greeted less effusively by the White House and noted with a noncommittal response by Democratic moderates whose votes will be pivotal.

Sen. Olympia Snowe of Maine, the only Republican to vote with Democrats on health care so far this year, issued a statement saying she was "deeply disappointed" in the approach the Democratic leader had chosen.

Reid said, "While the public option is not a silver bullet, I believe it's an important way to ensure competition and to level the playing field for patients with the insurance industry." He said a long-delayed Senate debate on President Barack Obama's call for an overhaul of the health care system would begin as soon as the Congressional Budget Office completes a mandatory assessment of the bill's cost and impact on coverage.

Changes on the public option—and numerous other provisions in the measure—are possible during a debate expected to last for weeks.

And officials said Reid had prepared several variations of key provisions so he could make adjustments in his bill at the last minute and still make sure he was within Obama's target of a $900 billion price tag over a decade.

Wayward pilots say they were busy using laptops

WASHINGTON (AP)—Not sleeping, the pilots say. They were engrossed in a complicated new crew-scheduling program on their laptop computers as their plane flew past its Minneapolis landing by 150 miles—a cockpit violation of airline policy that could cost them their licenses.

They were so focused on the scheduling—quite a complicated matter for the pilots after Delta Air Lines acquired Northwest Airlines a year ago—that they were out of communication with air traffic controllers and their airline for more than an hour. They didn't realize their mistake until contacted by a flight attendant about five minutes before the flight's scheduled landing last Wednesday night, the National Transportation Safety Board said Monday.

By then, Northwest Flight 188 with its 144 passengers and five crew members was over Wisconsin, at 37,000 feet.

The pilots—Richard Cole of Salem, Ore., the first officer, and Timothy Cheney of Gig Harbor, Wash., the captain—denied they had fallen asleep as aviation experts have suggested, the safety board said in recounting investigators' interviews with the men over the weekend.

Instead, Cole and Cheney said they both had their laptops out while the first officer, who had more experience with scheduling, instructed the captain on monthly flight crew scheduling.

Balloon mom may have admitted hoax to protect kids

DENVER (AP)—Friends say the mother of the little boy at the center of the Colorado balloon case is devoted—even subservient—to her inventor husband and her kids, so why would she allegedly tell sheriff's deputies that the whole thing was a hoax?

Henne

If Mayumi Heene made that confession—as alleged in a search warrant for the family's home—it may have been to keep her children from being taken away from her, or to spare them from having to testify against her husband, Richard Heene, legal experts said Monday.

"When it comes to incarceration, the bonds of affection only go so far," said Scott Robinson, a Denver trial lawyer and legal analyst.

Larimer County Sheriff Jim Alderden has said he'll recommend criminal charges of conspiracy, making a false report to authorities and attempting to influence a public servant. He's also asked that child protective services investigate the children's well-being.

The county district attorney's office received the case from the sheriff's department Monday but said it had requested more information. Richard Heene's lawyer, David Lane, also asked prosecutors Monday to probe whether Alderden violated state privacy laws when he told reporters child protective services had been contacted.

Alderden claims the Oct. 15 flight was a stunt to generate publicity for the Heenes. Both Mayumi and Richard Heene placed calls claiming 6-year-old Falcon may have been inside the balloon as it drifted 50 miles across northern Colorado. The world watched with horror as the balloon landed without the boy—then worried that he may have fallen thousands of feet to his death.

The Heenes said Falcon was found hiding in the rafters of the family's garage.

The Heenes have publicly denied any hoax. But a search warrant affidavit said Mayumi Heene, 45, told an investigator on Oct. 17 that the balloon was released intentionally and that the couple knew Falcon was hiding.

ACROSS THE NATION

Jury selection continues in first polygamist trial

ELDORADO, Texas (AP)—More than 150 potential jurors, including 10 women in prairie dresses and braids, crammed into a makeshift courtroom Monday as jury selection began in the first criminal trial stemming from the raid of a polygamist sect's ranch last year. Raymond Jessop, 38, is charged with sexual assault of a child, stemming from his alleged marriage to an underage girl. The girl, according to church documents seized by authorities, gave birth at age 16 at the Yearning For Zion Ranch in Eldorado. If convicted, Jessop faces 20 years in prison. He is also charged with bigamy, but that charge is to be tried separately. Prosecutors allege Jessop has nine wives, including three that were married to a brother before the brother was excommunicated by Warren Jeffs, the jailed leader of the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

Victim: Harvard coffee poisoning not an accident

BOSTON (AP)—One of six Harvard Medical School researchers sickened after drinking coffee laced with a toxic chemical said Monday he does not see how the poisoning could have been accidental, but has no idea who might be responsible. University police and other agencies are investigating the Aug. 26 poisonings, which were revealed in an internal memo to medical school faculty last week. The memo identified the substance as sodium azide, a common preservative used in school labs, but did not indicate whether officials believed the laced coffee to be accidental or intentional. "I always thought it was a deliberate substance added to the coffee," said Matteo Iannacone (pronounced mah-TAY'-oh eye-a-nah-KOH'-nee), a postdoctoral fellow.

Colo. school worker accused of taping boy's mouth

DENVER (AP)—Denver police have arrested an elementary school employee accused of taping the mouth and hands of a student. Police say 45-year-old administrator Jennifer Carter was being held Monday for investigation of child abuse and false imprisonment, both misdemeanors. A Denver jail official said a bond amount had not yet been set. Carter was put on leave following the alleged incident Wednesday at Palmer Elementary. It was unknown if she had an attorney. Denver Public Schools spokesman Mike Vaughn called the allegations "very troubling."

2 soldiers struck by car and killed in Fla.

FORT PIERCE, Fla. (AP)—Two soldiers making a surprise visit to their families in Florida before deployment to Iraq were struck by a car and killed after getting into a fight. Joshua Thomas Baker and Jonathan Wendell Peterson were on their way back to Fort Myers, Fla., Saturday evening from their base at Fort Stewart, Ga. when they got into an argument that escalated into a fist fight, Florida Highway Patrol Lt. Tim Frith said. Peterson pulled to a stop on the grassy median of a dark road in southeast Florida, and the men continued fighting in the roadway, Frith said. The nature of the argument isn't known, but Frith said alcohol may have played a role. "We think that one of the subjects may have been, certainly had, consumed alcohol," Frith said. "To what level, that's what we're waiting to determine."

Physicists say former Los Alamos scientist no spy

LOS ALAMOS, N.M. (AP)—Scientists familiar with the work of a former Los Alamos National Laboratory nuclear physicist whose house was searched by the FBI said he is not a spy. Hugh DeWitt, a retired physicist from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California, called the FBI action against scientist P. Leonardo Mascheroni foolish. "The FBI action is stupid and foolish and misguided and utterly wrong," said DeWitt, a retired physicist who was a lecturer in the physics department at the University of California, Berkeley when Mascheroni was a doctoral student there. "There's nothing classified or secret in this at all. His files are big papers, letters and mission statements. There's nothing whatever that would endanger national security," he said.

Jealous teen admits arranging Vt. cashier killing

NORTH HAVERHILL, N.H. (AP)—A New Hampshire man charged in the murder of a developmentally disabled Wal-Mart cashier who'd been flirting with his girlfriend pleaded guilty Monday to lesser charges, admitting he helped orchestrate the attack from his jail cell. Michael Robie, 19, who became enraged after being told of the advances by victim Christopher Gray, was captured on recorded telephone calls plotting to avenge them. Gray, who had attention deficit disorder and a low IQ, was stabbed to death in October 2008 after being lured to the home of Robie's girlfriend, Amber Talbot. Talbot, Timothy Smith and Anthony Howe all pleaded guilty last month to conspiracy and second-degree murder, acknowledging their roles in the killing.

Ga. woman scares off burglar by acting like a dog

ATHENS, Ga. (AP)—Police are investigating after an Athens woman scared off a would-be burglar by acting like a dog. The Athens Banner-Herald reported Monday that the woman scared off the suspect around 11 p.m. Saturday. According to police, the woman got on the floor and began scratching at the door and acting like a large dog when the suspicious man tried turning the woman's door knob. The police report did not say what specific dog-like behaviors, such as barking, the woman mimicked. The woman said the man, who appeared to be homeless, quickly ran from the porch. Police searched the neighborhood for him, but were unsuccessful.

Commonwealth I Sankattan Siha Na Islas Mariana
Ofisinan I Gubietno
Dipåttamenton I Tano' Pupbliku

PRINIPONEN ATKILON TANU PUBLIKU

Guaha priniponen atkilon tanu publiku giya Chalan Kanoa Tanu Numeru 014 H 01, poku mas o`menos Kiñientus Ochentai Ochu (588) metru kuatdrao.

Maseha haye libre muna` halom opiñion pot este na priniponen usun tanu publiku. Siña muna` halom hau sentimientu guato gi kabesanten tanu publiku gi maseha manu na offisinan tanu entre Luta, Tinian yan Saipan. Uttimu haane pot nina` halom opiñion i Nobembre dia 2, 2009.

I para u inatkila este na lugat i kompanian Mike's Manufacturing, Inc., kompania guine giya Marianas. I umiluluye este na kuetpon kompania i sigiente siha: Ji Young Shin, Eun Hie Shin, yan Bo Ok Shin. I offisiat siha: Eun Hie Shin, presidente; So Young Shin-Thouvenin, segundu presidente; Bo Ok Shin, sekretariu/tresurariu.

I man-atkikila para u usa i lugat para sagan kareta yan lokue sumasaonao ayo na fasilidat i humahatme gi tanu publiku. Este na atkilon si Señor Chang Wang Jang i munigosiu yan sumera i kontrata.

I tetminon este na kontrata para bente siñku años (25 years) ya libre lokue i umatkikila umekstende para talu kinse años (15 years) na tiempu.

I atkilon gaige gi monhayan na ripot mafananaan "appraisal", (ininan yan inestudian kuantu baliña i tanu publiku) ni para uma-atkila. I depattamienton tanu taya ha resibi otro propositu pot uson este na tanu publiku. I kopian i maproponen kontrâtan atkilon siña machule' gi ofisinan Dipattamenton Tano' Pupbliku Siha, gaige gi sigundo(2nd) bibienda gi as Joeten Dandan Commercial Building giya Dandan, Saipan; i sigundo(2nd) bibienda gi Bank of Saipan Commercial Building, Luta; pat i primet(1st) pisu gi Kings Commercial Building, Tinian.

I Dipattamenton Tano' Pupbliku siha ha risibi tåya' na tinahguen propositu siha para i atkilon suheton tåno' pupbliku giya Chalan Kanoa, Saipan.

ARONG REEL POMWOL AKKILONUL FALAWEER TOULAP

Sángi Tálil ye 106 (b) mellól Alléghúl Toulap ye 15-2, Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falaweer Toulap ekke isisiwow ammataf igha ebwe akkilaaló eew falaweer toulap mellól Seipél, Commonwealth Téél Falúw Kka Efáng, Marianas.

Toulap kka eyoor mafiyeer reel pomwol akkiloon yeel rebwe afangalong me bwal sángi Alléghúl Toulap ye 15-2, arong yeel ebwe akkatéwow.

i. Pomwol akkilonul falaweer toulap ye ekke bwáári bwe Lot No. 014 H 01, ebwe yoor 588 sq meters, e lapeló ngáre e ghittiw, elo Elal Ghaloowa Seipél. Tilighiyal bwuley yeel elo Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falaweer toulap ngáre óubwe amweri.

ii. Schóóy Akkiloon nge Mike's Manufacturing, Inc. Corporationul CNMI. Board of Directors llól Corporation yeel nge Ji Young Shin, EUN Hie Shin me Bo Ok Shin.

Samwoolul Cooporation yeel nge Eun Hie Shin, Arúschayúl So Young Shin – Thouvenin. Secretary me Treasurer nge Bo Ok Shin.

iii. Pomwol akkiloon yeel nge sángi yaal aweewe Mr. Chang Whan Jang.

iv. Schóóy akkiloon ebwe yááyá bwuley reel parkingil ghareeta me encroaching building structure.

Tool pomwol akkiloon yeel nge 25 ráágh, me emmwel ebwe bwal sóbwusóbw ngáli 15 ráágh.

Pomwol akkiloonul llól ráágh nge ebwe mwir sángi llapal méél falúw (appraisal value) me bwal millikka e akkayú llól bwuley.

v. Pomwol Akkiloon yeel nge emmwel ebwe bweibwogh me Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falaweer Toulap, 2nd floor Joeten Dandan Commercial Bldg. Dandan, Seipél, 2nd floor Bank of Saipan Commercial Bldg, Luuta, me ngáre 1st floor Kings Commercial Bldg. Tchúlúyól.

vi. Ese yoor bwal eew pomwol akkiloon Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falaweer Toulap e Amwuschi bwe iye schagh elo Elal Ghaloowa,Seipél.

vii. Samwoolul Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falaweer Toulap ebwe bwughi aghiyágh, Mángemáng me aingiing mereer schóókka re tipeli wóól me ngáre mmwal Ariyamoy 2, 2009, mellól Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falaweer Toulap mewóól Seipél, Tchúlúyól me Luuta.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEASE OF PUBLIC LAND

In accordance with Section 106 (b) of Public Law 15-2, the Department of Public Lands hereby gives notice of its intent to lease certain public lands in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Any interested parties of the general public may submit comments, data, views, or arguments of alternative proposals for the lease of the public land. As further provided by Public Law 15-2, the following pertinent information is required to be published.

i. The proposed lease of public land is described as Lot No. 014 H 01, containing an area of approximately 588 square meters, more or less, situated in Chalan Kanoa, Saipan. A copy of the location of the parcel is available at the Department of Public Lands for inspection.

ii. The prospective lessee is Mike's Manufacturing, Inc., a CNMI Corporation. The Board of Directors of the Corporation are Ji Young Shin, Eun Hie Shin, and Bo Ok Shin.

The President of the Corporation is Eun Hie Shin. The Vice President is So Young Shin-Thouvenin. The Secretary and Treasurer is Bo Ok Shin.

iii. The proposed lease was negotiated by Mr. Chang Whan Jang.

iv. The lessee shall use the premises solely for the purpose of maintaining vehicular parking space and an encroaching commercial building structure.

The term of the proposed lease agreement is 25 years, with an option to extend the lease for an additional 15 years.

The proposed annual rental during the term is based on a percentage of the appraised fair market value of the property, including existing structure(s).

v. A copy of the proposed lease agreement may be obtained at the office of the Department of Public Lands, located on the 2nd floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building in Dandan, Saipan; the 2nd floor of the Bank of Saipan Commercial Building, Rota; or the 1st floor of the Kings Commercial Building, Tinian.

vi. The Department of Public Lands has received no alternative proposals to lease the subject public land in Chalan Kanoa, Saipan.

vii. The Secretary of the Department of Public Lands shall accept written comments, views, arguments or alternative proposals from interested parties on or before November 2, 2009 at the Department of Public Lands offices located in Saipan, Rota or Tinian.

Asia

14 Americans dead in Afghanistan

KABUL (AP)—A U.S. military helicopter crashed Monday while returning from the scene of a firefight with suspected Taliban drug traffickers in western Afghanistan, killing 10 Americans including three DEA agents in a not-so-noticed war within a war.

Four more troops were killed when two helicopters collided over southern Afghanistan, making it the deadliest day for U.S. forces in this country in more than four years.

U.S. military officials insisted neither crash was believed a result of hostile fire, although the Taliban claimed they shot down a U.S. helicopter in the western province of Badghis. The U.S. did not say where in western Afghanistan its helicopter went down, and no other aircraft were reported missing.

The second crash took place when two U.S. Marine helicopters—a UH-1 and an AH-1 Cobra—collided in flight before sunrise over the southern province of Helmand, killing four American troops and wounding two more, Marine spokesman Maj. Bill Pelletier said.

The casualties marked the Drug Enforcement Administration's first deaths since it began operations here in 2005. Afghanistan is the world's largest producer of opium—the raw ingredient in heroin—and the illicit drug trade is a major source of funding for insurgent groups.

The U.S. has decided to target production and distribution networks after programs to destroy poppy fields did little except turn farmers against the American-led NATO mission.

In the past year, the DEA has launched an ambitious plan to increase its personnel in Afghanistan from about a dozen to nearly 80, greatly expanding its role.

NATO said the helicopter containing the DEA agents was returning from a joint operation that targeted a compound used by insurgents involved in "narcotics trafficking in western Afghanistan."

"During the operation, insurgent forces engaged the joint force and more than a dozen enemy fighters were killed in the ensuing firefight," a NATO statement said.

Eleven Americans, including another DEA agent, and 14 Afghan security troops were wounded in the crash, NATO said.

US gives food aid to typhoon-battered RP

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The U.S. government on Monday announced $8.5 million in food aid for the Philippines, which is struggling to recover from back-to-back storms that killed more than 900 people.

U.S. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack told President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo that the food aid, consisting of rice and dry milk, can feed nearly half a million people for two months, officials said.

The food aid "will help the people in the most need of assistance," said Vilsack, who led a trade mission to the capital, Manila.

Tropical Storm Ketsana last month triggered the worst flooding in Manila in more than 40 years, and Typhoon Parma early this month caused deadly landslides. The two storms killed 929 and flooded the homes of more than 7 million people.

More than 123,000 people remained in government-run evacuation centers Monday, according to the National Disaster Coordinating Council.

The damage in agriculture alone has reached more than $446 million (21 billion pesos), Philippine officials said.

The country is seeking $74 million in foreign assistance through the United Nations for food, water, sanitation facilities and health care. U.S. officials said their aid Monday is separate from that request.

The government has also postponed to next year a conference of the Non-Aligned Movement, a 118-nation grouping of mostly African, Asian and Latin

Police: Pakistan releases 11 Iranians amid tension

QUETTA, Pakistan (AP)—Pakistan on Tuesday released 11 Iranians detained near the countries' border amid tensions over a deadly suicide attack in Iran that Tehran alleges has links to Pakistani intelligence officials, police said.

Authorities had first said the 11 were members of Iran's elite Revolutionary Guards, but then reversed course and identified them only as security officers. They were arrested Monday after shooting out the tires of a car carrying smugglers, Pakistan authorities said.

The arrests threatened to add to the strain between the two nations triggered by the Oct. 18 attack on the Iranian side of the border. They came a day after the Pakistani president met Iran's interior minister and vowed to track down the perpetrators of the blast.

Police official Dadur Rehman said the paramilitary Frontier Corps released the Iranians after an investigation.

"I do not have any idea why they were released," Rehman added in a phone call with The Associated Press from the area where the Iranians were held. He said he had not been privy to the interrogation.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Malaysian girl drowns, 2 others missing in river

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)—A new footbridge across a Malaysian river collapsed while schoolchildren crossed it during a camping trip, killing one girl and leaving two missing and feared drowned in the currents below, officials said Tuesday. Police, firefighters and emergency services personnel were scouring the Kampar River in northern Malaysia where the 12-year-old students disappeared late Monday, said district police chief Aziz Salleh. An error in registration records of the 300 students on the trip caused authorities to earlier estimate that 22 had disappeared, Aziz said. At least 20 students were walking on the 160-foot-long (50-meter-long) bridge when it collapsed, but most managed to cling to it or were pulled to safety by their teachers.

Group: 2 Tibetans executed in China over riots

BEIJING (AP)—Two people have been put to death for their roles in deadly protests last year in the Chinese-controlled region of Tibet, the first known executions for the violence, an overseas monitoring group said Tuesday. Lobsang Gyaltsen and Loyak, who goes by one name, were sentenced to death in April on charges relating to "starting fatal fires," according to the International Campaign for Tibet, a Washington-based advocacy group. The group said the Tibetans were executed in the regional capital of Lhasa but did not say when. Other Tibetan rights groups have said the executions were carried out last Tuesday.

Japanese actress drug trial draws crowd of 6,000

TOKYO (AP)—More than 6,000 people crowded outside a Tokyo courthouse Monday as Japanese actress Noriko Sakai pleaded guilty to drug use and prosecutors sought a prison sentence in a trial that has caused a media frenzy. The 38-year-old Sakai was among the first Japanese actresses to gain popularity in Asia, and her arrest in August threatened to shatter her wholesome image. The scandal has dominated headlines for months in Japan, and authorities have said they will crack down on drug use in the entertainment industry.

World

Iran hints it could ship some uranium abroad

AP

Inspectors of the International Atomic Energy Agency leave the Imam Khomeini airport outside Tehran, Iran, Sunday, Oct. 25, 2009.

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—Iran hinted Monday it could agree to ship some low-enriched uranium abroad for processing as reactor fuel as the world awaited its reply on a U.N.-drafted nuclear plan aimed at easing tensions with the West.

But the step might not be enough to defuse the tensions, and Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki also left open the possibility Iran may snub the proposal and instead seek to buy the nuclear fuel it needs for a research reactor that makes medical isotopes.

The two-sided scenario presented by Mottaki appeared part of Iran's strategy to drag out negotiations over its nuclear program and leave the West guessing about its decision expected later this week.

But Iran has not closed the door on the U.N.-backed concessions and has suggested there is room for some agreement on ways to keep tabs on its nuclear fuel and uranium enrichment. The latest message came as U.N. nuclear inspectors completed their second full day examining a still-unfinished enrichment lab that was top secret until just a month ago.

Iraq steps up security after blasts kill 155

BAGHDAD (AP)—Iraq's government made progress on a new election law that could ease tensions and pledged tighter security Monday after suicide bombings claimed at least 155 lives, including as many as two dozen children trapped in a bus leaving a day care center.

But those promises held little sway with Iraqis outraged at the government's inability to maintain peace in the city.

The twin bombings in what was supposed to be one of the city's safest areas came as Iraq prepares for pivotal elections in January that will determine who will guide the country through the U.S. withdrawal. The blasts seemed designed to undermine Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, who has staked his political future on restoring safety to the country.

"Al-Maliki always appears on TV bragging that the situation is stable and security is restored. Let him come and see this mass destruction," said Ahmed Mahmoud, who had returned to the blast site Monday to search for his brother's head after identifying his headless body at a hospital morgue by the belt he was wearing.

"I took the body to Najaf for burial. Then I came back looking for the head," Mahmoud said.

WORLD BRIEFS

Karadzic boycotts opening of his war crimes trial

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP)—His chair was empty, his headphones lay idle on the desk. In Courtroom One at the Yugoslav war crimes tribunal, outraged survivors of Bosnia's bloody war gasped in disbelief Monday as judges adjourned the opening day of Radovan Karadzic's trial after just 15 minutes. The former Bosnian Serb leader boycotted his war crimes trial, claiming he did not have enough time to prepare his defense—even though he was indicted in 1995 and had known he would be tried since being captured in Belgrade over 15 months ago. The tactic forced a one-day delay in the trial and demonstrated that the former psychiatrist was ready for a tumultuous battle of wills with the UN war crimes tribunal. Judges adjourned Monday's hearing but declared that the trial will begin Tuesday "with or without" Karadzic.

King scraps Saudi woman flogging for sex talk show

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP)—Saudi Arabia's king waived a flogging sentence on a female journalist charged for involvement in a risque TV show, the second such pardoning of such a high profile case by the monarch in recent years. King Abdullah's decision to waive 22-year-old journalist Rozanna al-Yami's sentence of 60 lashes by a judge in Jiddah follows intense international media attention. The journalist was charged with helping coordinate a talk show on a Lebanese channel featuring a Saudi man describing what appeared to be his active sex life. Though the charges against her were dropped, the judge ordered the flogging as a "deterent" al-Yami said.

Man tells German court of Egyptian wife's killing

DRESDEN, Germany (AP)—The husband of a pregnant Egyptian woman knifed to death in a German courtroom testified Monday that the alleged attacker continued stabbing his wife even after she was on the ground. The suspect, 29-year-old Alexander W., arrived for his trial in the same court room Monday with his face concealed beneath a hood, hat, sunglasses and a mask. Only after several urgings by the judge did he remove the mask, hat and hood, but he was fined for contempt of court for keeping the sunglasses on. He faces charges of murder, attempted murder and dangerous bodily harm for the July slaying of 31-year-old Marwa al-Sherbini. As in all criminal cases in Germany, Alexander W.'s surname will be withheld by the court unless the defendant is convicted.

Campus Life

Promoting reading among teens

Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos signed the proclamation for the Teen Read Week on Friday, Oct. 16, 2009.

Teen Read Week is the national adolescent literacy initiative of the Young Adult Library Services Association, the fastest-growing division of the American Library Association. The CNMI joins thousands of libraries throughout the country in encouraging teens to read a wide variety of materials and read for pleasure.

During the proclamation signing, Sudi Napalan, the Saipan Southern High School librarian, said, "Today is a great achievement for the libraries throughout the CNMI. Today, our governor signed a proclamation that solidifies the CNMI libraries to work together in serving the important patrons, our teens. This proclamation should be a good start to nurture teen literacy in our libraries. Our teens throughout the CNMI are talented, full of energy and they are still very much in need of a place and people that will encourage them to keep reading."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Front, from left to right, Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos, Lallane Guiao, Sudi Napalan (SSHS teacher librarian), Gina Sambilay (Kagman High School library technician). Second row, from left, Jonas Barcinas (Hopwood Junior High principal), Patty Cruz (Marianas High School library technician), Elizabeth Lizama (Hopwood library technician), Jan Kimberly Alcantara, Ann Flores, Erlinda Naputi (Joeten Kiyu Public library technician). Third row, Donna Formalejo, Merey Len Denora, Crista Ching, and Kaelani Demapan. Fourth row, Nicole Ichihara, Melanie Joyce Cruz, and John Gonzales (Joeten Kiyu Public Library director).

Junior student Donna Formalejo said the Teen Read Week proclamation was a "productive and fun day. Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos was very hospitable and considerate. I hope he keeps his word about the George W. Bush Library trip."

Another student, Kaelani Demapan believes that Teen Read Week will be a success. "I say that because it showed today with the Teen Read Week proclamation. This Teen Read Week will be a success for ourselves and for all other teens out there. As Book Club members of Saipan Southern High, we showed others that we are dedicated and determined to make this a success and that the main reason is because we love to read and we want to promote reading to other teens."

Saipan Southern High School Library acknowledged the help of local businesses—Rainbow Color, IT&E, Pacific Islands Club, Café at the Park—and regular community members like Jill Arenovski, Rep. Christine Marie Sablan, and Ryan Napalan who donated gift certificates and services to make the school's Teen Read Week celebration a festive and fun event. ***(SSHS)***

HONOR ROLL

The following is the Saipan Community School Honor Roll list for the first quarter:

6th Grade

"A" Honor 3.50-3.99
Tammy Ackerman

"B" Honor 3.00-3.49
Joel Jang, Ji Hoon Lee, Yong Heng Huang, Mary Grace Tiglao, Rachel Park, Jason Lee, Dylan Ackerman

7th Grade

"B" Honor Roll 3.50-3.99
Jee Hyun Lee, Lydin Johnson, Rena Son, Emily Rose Dewitt, Han Mil Oh, Xuan Jun Lu, Steven Choi, Candice Reyes

"B" Honor Roll 3.00-3.49
Jehn Joyner, Yong Da Huang, Brianna Farjardo, Seiya Eda, Rebekah Esplin, Jin Pyo Jeon, Pedro Tenorio, Clayton Sablan

8th Grade

"A" Honor Roll 3.50-3.99
Magdiel Corpuz, Ericka Garcia, Kanani Lee

"B" Honor Roll 3.00-3.49
Enoch Jr. Lim, Isa Tudela, Sierra Calvo, Eron Constante

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

INVITATION FOR BIDS
COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION
CUC-IFB-10-002

Emergency Repair: Fuel tank # 106 and 105, Power Plant 1, Saipan

The Office of the Executive Director, commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting sealed bids from qualified individuals or firms for the Emergency Repair: Fuel tank # 106 and 105, Power Plant 1, Saipan, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The tank # 106 has been out of operation for more than 2 years while the tank # 105 is still in use.

A mandatory site visit and pre-bid meeting is scheduled for October 19x, 2009 at 10:30 a.m. local time at CUC Power Plant 1 Administration Building, Lower Base, Saipan, to ensure that the contractors are fully aware of the work involved and familiarize with the site conditions. All proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the proposers due to lack of information or understanding of the plant site conditions in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid or performance of work under the contract.

One (1) original and five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"IFB 10 – 002 – Emergency Repair: Fuel tank # 106 and 105, Power Plant 1, Saipan"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor Joeten Dandan, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **Friday, October 30, 2009 at 3:00 p.m.**, local time, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

The bidder is required to submit a copy of his CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less that the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page – http://www.dol.gov/esa/minwage/cnmi/cnmi.htm. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

The Scope-of-Work and Bid package will be **e-mailed**, upon request, to all interested bidders, by the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, during working days, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., local time, **until October 23, 2009**. Contractors are advised that the work will be carried our as a part of CUC response actions under the consent decree noted as Stipulated Order No. 2 (SO 2).

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. local time on Thursday, October 22, 2009,** to and Mr. Venugopal Prabhakara, power Generation Managing Engineer via email at venu@cucgov.net or Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr., Procurement & Supply Manager via email at msablan@cucgov.net or Ms. Rebecca Grimes via email at beckyg@cucgov.net.

Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the interest of the government.

/s/TIMOTHY M. CONNOR	/s/ABE UTU MALAE	/s/ANTONIO S. MUNA
Legal Counsel	Assistant Executive Director for Operation	Executive Director

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, The Open Government Act of 1992, the Marianas Public Land Trust has scheduled a Board of Trustees Special Meeting to be held on Friday, October 30, 2009 beginning at 10:00 AM at the MPLT Conference Room, Suite #107, Morgen Building; Saipan, MP.

The following agenda is hereby established:

I PRELIMINARIES
- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Adoption of Agenda

II OLD BUSINESS
- GF Distribution Status Update re: P.L. 10-29 Amendment
- Rota Gaming Commission Loan Request

III EXECUTIVE SESSION
At anytime during this scheduled meeting, the Board of Trustees may be required to enter into Executive Session to discuss matters deemed privileged and confidential.

IV MISCELLANEOUS

V ADJOURNMENT

In accordance with Public Law 8-41, additional agenda items may be added to the above listing only by the recorded vote of the majority of the trustee governing body. All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written and oral testimony on the above agenda items.

/s/ **Alvaro A. Santos**
Chairman, Pro Tem

ELECT KAIPAT
SENATE #4

✔ Honesty ✔ Hard work
✔ Service ✔ Knowledge
✔ Get-it-done spirit

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Jacinta M. Kaipat, Fernando M. Romolor, Treasurer

Life & Style

Opera diva's irksome call was about Jackson film

NEW YORK (AP)—Argentine opera singer Gabriela Pochinki said Monday that she was talking to the organizers of the Las Vegas premiere of Michael Jackson's film "This Is It" when she was arrested at a swank Manhattan restaurant for yelling into her cell phone.

"I'm so sorry if my telephone conversation bothered anyone," Pochinki said Monday of her Oct. 18 arrest at Nice Matin, speaking in Spanish to The Associated Press.

The soprano, who has performed in lead roles on stages around the world and recorded several albums, has been invited by Jackson's family to perform at Tuesday's Las Vegas premiere of the movie that chronicles the King of Pop as he prepared for a comeback tour that never happened.

According to Pochinki's attorney, Barry Black, restaurant workers complained about the loud phone call to her mother, who was having dinner with the 40-year-old singer.

"She was completely immersed in the conversation," Black said. "At no time did she notice what was happening until a police officer appeared and told her to come along and they took away her food."

Pochinki was accused of misdemeanor disorderly conduct, criminal trespass and obstructing-government charges. But her attorney and the singer said on Friday the case was adjourned on contemplation of dismissal, meaning the charges will be tossed in six months, as long as she stays out of trouble.

"The case is closed. In six months, it will be as if nothing ever happened," Black said.

The singer described the incident as a "bad moment" that she tried to "transform into something more positive." She compared it to the operatic tragedies that she has performed in—albeit, her experience had a happier ending.

Pochinki said that during the two hours that she was detained, on the verge of tears, she recalled "Die Fledermaus" by Johann Strauss. In that opera, one of the characters finds comfort in prison by singing. So she asked permission to warm up her voice.

"I started to sing ("Somewhere" from "West Side Story") and midway through singing they all started feeling it. ... They also noticed that I was an opera singer and they applauded, they relaxed a bit. And my mom, who was outside, she heard me and relaxed, because she knew that everything was fine," said the singer, who has won numerous awards, including for best singer in the world at the Lyric Festival in Italy.

Madonna plants tree to launch Malawi girls school

LILONGWE, Malawi (AP)—Madonna marked the start of construction of her school for girls in Malawi on Monday by planting a tree at the planned site of the $15 million school.

The 51-year-old celebrity arrived in the impoverished southern African country on Sunday accompanied by her four children—daughters Lourdes and Mercy, and sons Rocco and David.

Madonna adopted Mercy from Malawi earlier this year and adopted David from the country in 2008.

The singer was dressed in a dark summer dress and a colorful shawl during Monday's ceremony in the town of Chinkhota, some six miles (10 kilometers) from the capital, Lilongwe. Together with eldest daughter Lourdes she planted a Moringa tree, a hardy tree with edible leaves.

"If this school is a success—with God-willing it will be—we will replicate it not only in Malawi but in other parts of the world as well," she said.

The new school will be called the Raising Malawi Academy for Girls and will open by 2011 and educate 500 students, said its future principal, Anjimile Mtila-Opponyo. It will be similar to the school built by talk show host Oprah Winfrey in South Africa.

AP

US pop star Madonna plants a tree at a ground breaking ceremony for her Raising Malawi Academy for Girls in Malawi, Monday, Oct. 26, 2009. Madonna who is funding the building of the school was the guest of honor at the function.

Mtila-Opponyo said the curriculum will emphasize science and mathematics.

"Madonna did not accept that Malawian women would not study science to become doctors," she said.

The singer told some 1,000 gathered villagers she was inspired by the strength of Malawian girls and women.

"In all my travels, investigations and conversations the most recurring thing is how amazing Malawian women are, both young and old, how industrious they are and how much they deserve to be educated," she said.

Madonna's Raising Malawi, a charity founded in 2006 when she first visited the country, helps feed, educate and provide medical care for some of Malawi's orphans.

Malawi, a nation of 12 million, is one of the poorest countries in the world. About 500,000 children have lost a parent to AIDS.

Madonna will also meet with President Bingu wa Mutharika on Tuesday and visit some of the orphanages her charity supports.

Joke's on Bill Cosby as Seinfeld, Rock pay tribute

WASHINGTON (AP)—Chris Rock and Jerry Seinfeld will salute fellow funny man Bill Cosby on Monday night with the nation's top humor prize at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, along with two co-stars from "The Cosby Show," Phylicia Rashad and Malcolm-Jamal Warner.

Tribute performances will range from standup to orchestra and jazz as Cosby receives the Mark Twain Prize for American Humor. Carl Reiner, Sinbad and Wynton Marsalis are slated to perform, as well as Willie Nelson.

On the red carpet before the show, Sinbad said he has always looked up to Cosby for breaking racial barriers and creating new opportunities for black actors and comedians.

"First of all, to have a brother on TV—with 'I Spy'—with a white co-star, that was unheard of," Sinbad said.

Rashad flew from London where she is in rehearsals for "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" to be part of the show at Cosby's request. She said she expects plenty of "Cosby Show" memories.

"It was so much fun, it really was golden," she said on the red carpet. "I looked forward to waking up every morning and rushing to work."

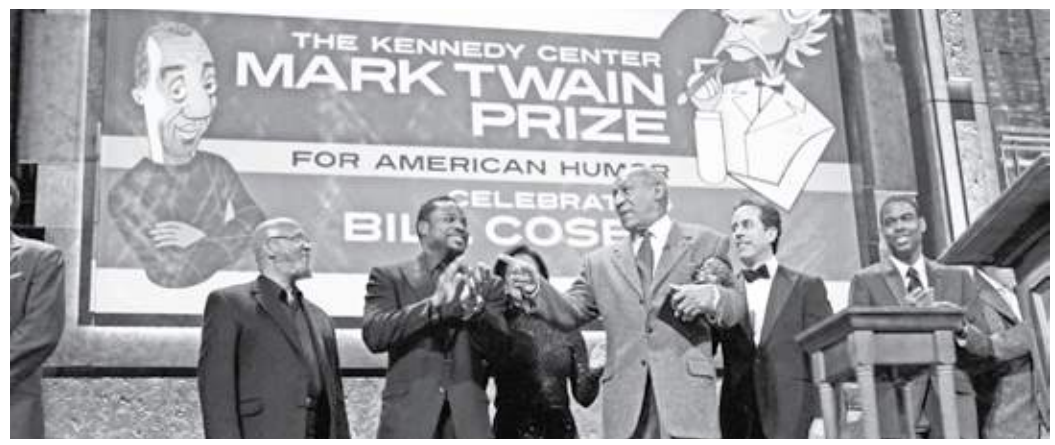
Warner, who played Theo on the "Cosby Show," said he has been in touch with his TV dad ever since the show. Now, he said he is far enough removed to watch himself in reruns and said the show is a testament to Cosby's genius.

"He always said in 20 years he wanted the show to still be relevant, and here we are," Warner said.

Cosby made an entrance on the red carpet and applauded dozens of fans who responded with clapping.

He has insisted that performances at the tribute be free of profanity and that the show reflect his emphasis on education. He planned a special nod to his beloved Central High School in Philadelphia, with fellow alumnus James DePreist conducting an orchestra that will play their high school's alma mater.

First Lady Michelle Obama and Jill Biden, the vice president's wife, also attended.



AP

Comedian and actor Bill Cosby, foreground wearing brown suit, holds the Mark Twain Prize for American Humor after being honored with the prize in Washington, Monday, Oct. 26, 2009. From left are musician Len Chandler, actor Malcolm-Jamal Warner, actress Phylicia Rashad, Cosby, comedian Jerry Seinfeld, and comedian Chris Rock.

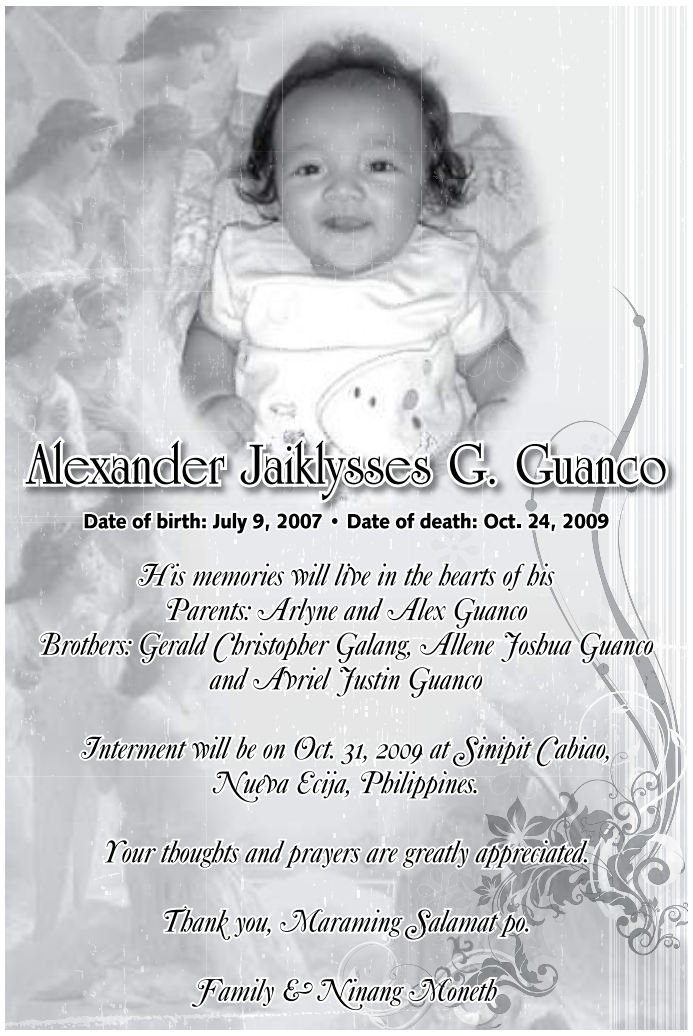
"The show is very, very important to me," Cosby said in an interview. "It makes me aware that as a monologist and a writer and a performer, I've done some wonderful work."

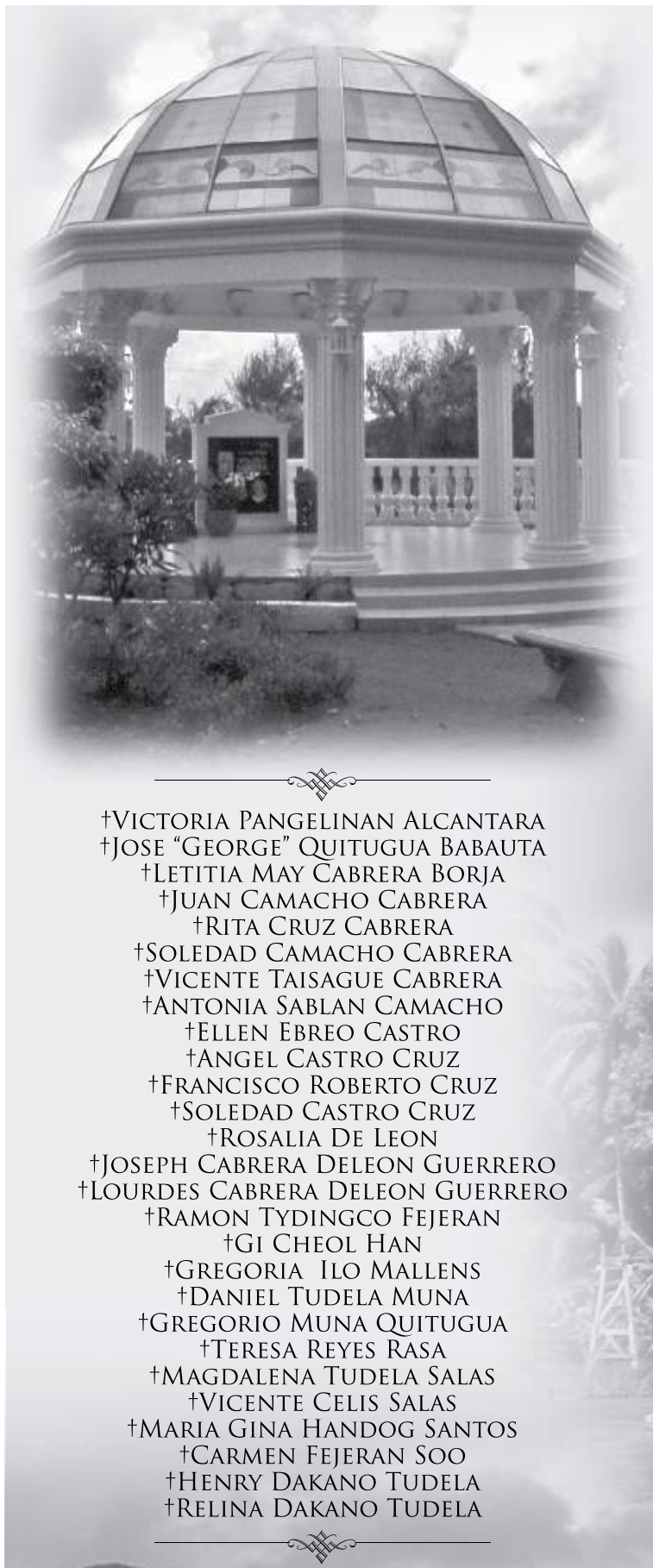
The tribute will air Nov. 4 nationwide on PBS.

Of all his accomplishments as a comedian, actor, author and television producer, Cosby said he is most proud of "The Cosby Show." He said he carefully crafted the hit TV show the way he wanted it to look.

Seinfeld, who took over Thursday nights on NBC after "Cosby" went to reruns, said he learned how to make the jump from standup to television by watching Cosby.

"The way that he would take reality and silly putty it, I think was the biggest thing I learned from him," Seinfeld said. "It was the idea that this may be how this thing is, but you can make it into something completely different in the way you talk about it and make it into something fun."


Alexander Jaiklysses G. Guanco
Date of birth: July 9, 2007 • Date of death: Oct. 24, 2009
His memories will live in the hearts of his
Parents: Arlyne and Alex Guanco
Brothers: Gerald Christopher Galang, Allene Joshua Guanco
and Avriel Justin Guanco
Interment will be on Oct. 31, 2009 at Sinipit Cabiao,
Nueva Ecija, Philippines.
Your thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.
Thank you, Maraming Salamat po.
Family & Ninang Moneth



May the angels lead you into paradise, may the martyrs come to welcome you and take you to the holy city, the new and eternal Jerusalem. May the choir of angels welcomes you and lead you where Lazarus is poor no longer. May you find eternal rest.....

†Victoria Pangelinan Alcantara
†Jose "George" Quitugua Babauta
†Letitia May Cabrera Borja
†Juan Camacho Cabrera
†Rita Cruz Cabrera
†Soledad Camacho Cabrera
†Vicente Taisague Cabrera
†Antonia Sablan Camacho
†Ellen Ebreo Castro
†Angel Castro Cruz
†Francisco Roberto Cruz
†Soledad Castro Cruz
†Rosalia De Leon
†Joseph Cabrera Deleon Guerrero
†Lourdes Cabrera Deleon Guerrero
†Ramon Tydingco Fejeran
†Gi Cheol Han
†Gregoria Ilo Mallens
†Daniel Tudela Muna
†Gregorio Muna Quitugua
†Teresa Reyes Rasa
†Magdalena Tudela Salas
†Vicente Celis Salas
†Maria Gina Handog Santos
†Carmen Fejeran Soo
†Henry Dakano Tudela
†Relina Dakano Tudela

ALL SOULS DAY SERVICES

Monday, November 2, 2009
Holy Rosary—3:00 PM • Eucharistic Celebration—3:30PM
Responso and Blessing

SANCTUARIO MEMORIAL LIFE PLAN • MEMORIAL CHAPEL • MEMORIAL GARDENS

Kagman, Saipan • For information: (670) 235-1414 / (670) 287-5810

Polanski's victim says she wants to be left alone

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Roman Polanski's arrest has caused his victim health problems and job worries, and she just wants to be left alone, her attorney wrote in a court filing.

Attorney Lawrence Silver urged a California appeals court to dismiss the criminal case against the "Chinatown" director.

The filing with the Second District Court of Appeal on Friday said Samantha Geimer and Silver have received nearly 500 media calls seeking comment since Polanski was arrested in Switzerland on Sept. 26.

Geimer, who long ago identified herself publicly, and her family have to contend with such pressure whenever Polanski is in the news, the six-page filing said.

Geimer, who lives in Hawaii, is being stalked by journalists from numerous international news outlets and has received interview requests from Larry King and Oprah Winfrey, the filing said. The Associated Press has also requested interviews with Geimer and Silver.

"The pursuit has caused her to have health-related issues," it said. "The pursuit has caused her performance at her job to be interfered with and has caused the understandable displeasure of her employer and the real possibility that Samantha could lose her job."

The filing seeks dismissal of the case against Polanski and ends with a request: "Leave her alone."

Geimer has frequently lobbied for an end to the case.

Los Angeles County District Attorney Steve Cooley has said the charges can't be dropped because the law requires a conclusion to the court process. His office is merely trying to resolve the case, not persecute the director, he said.

Polanski

The latest request by Geimer was made to the appeals court, which is being asked by Polanski's attorney to order a lower court to rule on a motion to dismiss the charges.

The Academy Award-winning director is resisting efforts to return him to Los Angeles.

Geimer was 13 when she met Polanski, who was accused of raping her after plying her with champagne and part of a Quaalude pill during a modeling shoot in 1977. He was initially indicted on six felony counts, including rape by use of drugs, child molesting and sodomy.

Polanski pleaded guilty to unlawful sexual intercourse, and a judge sent him to prison for a 90-day psychiatric evaluation. He was released after 42 days by an evaluator who deemed him mentally sound and unlikely to offend again.

The judge responded by saying he was going to send Polanski back to jail for the remainder of the 90 days and that afterward he would ask Polanski to agree to a voluntary deportation. Polanski fled the country the night before he was scheduled to be sentenced in 1978.

Geimer sued Polanski in 1988 when she was 25. Polanski agreed to pay her $500,000, but it's unclear if she ever received the full amount.

'Crash' director Paul Haggis quits Scientology

NEW YORK (AP)—"Crash" director Paul Haggis has severed his ties with the Church of Scientology, in part because of what he alleged as the organization's stance against gay marriage.

Haggis wrote a letter addressed to Tommy Davis, the head of Scientology's Celebrity Centre. In it, Haggis said he was disappointed by the church's tacit denial of gay rights in the debate over California's gay marriage ban.

The 56-year-old Haggis, who won an Oscar in 2005 for co-writing "Crash," said he was quitting the church after 35 years.

"I could not, in good conscience, be a member of an organization where gay-bashing was tolerated," Haggis wrote.

The filmmaker said that he was promised that action would be taken but that he was frustrated after time passed.

"Silence is consent, Tommy," Haggis wrote. "I refuse to consent."

The letter, dated Aug. 19, was published in a blog about Scientology and has since been widely circulated online.

Haggis

Ziggy Kozlowski, a publicist for Haggis, confirmed that the director wrote the letter. Kozlowski said the letter was intended to remain private.

Davis said Haggis' complaints were based on misunderstandings and that he has since spoken to the filmmaker. Davis strenuously disagreed with Haggis' claim that the Church of Scientology is in any way anti-gay.

Davis said the San Diego chapter of the Church of Scientology was incorrectly characterized as supportive of Prop 8.

"We're all for civil rights and the rights of minorities," said Davis. "We know what it is to be a minority and have your rights curtailed. We're very vocal and consistent in our stance on discrimination against anybody. We take it very seriously."

For an organization often shrouded in secrecy, the letter offered an unusual window into a dialogue between the church and one of its famous members. Occasionally, Scientology materials are leaked. Last year, a promotional video starring its most famous member, Tom Cruise, was watched by millions.

Haggis also said he was "shocked" that the Church of Scientology was publicly denying that it adheres to a policy of disconnection—of severing ties with a friend or family member who's antagonistic toward Scientology. Haggis said that his wife, Deborah Rennard, was given precisely those orders and didn't speak to her parents for more than a year.

Davis again disagreed with Haggis and said the church doesn't mandate disconnection with anybody and that it was an entirely "self-determined decision."

"The great majority of Scientologists I know are good people who are genuinely interested in improving conditions on this planet and helping others," Haggis wrote. "I have to believe that if they knew what I now know, they too would be horrified."

The Los Angeles-based Church of Scientology, founded in 1954 by the late science fiction writer L. Ron Hubbard, claims to have 10 million members in 165 nations.

King of Pop aims for king of music film status

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The 50 comeback concerts Michael Jackson planned in London last summer sold out in a few hours.

With those shows relegated to what-if status by his death in June, the question now is how well the singer can pack movie theaters with "Michael Jackson: This Is It," a chronicle of his concert preparations that now stands as his final performance.

Advance ticket sales have been brisk, but no one has a handle on how big the turnout might be this week.

Some think it's likely to surpass the $31.1 million opening weekend and the $65.3 million lifetime haul of "Hannah Montana & Miley Cyrus: Best of Both Worlds Concert," the biggest concert movie on record.

Some expect a $100 million total domestic haul. Others think it could go much higher, but how high is anyone's guess.

"It reminds me of `Blair Witch,' it reminds me of `Fahrenheit 9/11,' it reminds me of `Passion of the Christ.' You even have to throw in `Snakes on a Plane.' Films that are bigger than life and just unpredictable. We don't really know how they're going to do," said Paul Dergarabedian, box-office analyst for Hollywood.com.

AP
In this film publicity image released by Sony Pictures, the movie poster for Michael Jackson's "This is It," film, is shown.

For the record, "The Blair Witch Project," "Fahrenheit 9/11" and "The Passion of the Christ" all were hits. "Snakes on a Plane," despite tremendous advance buzz, fizzled.

Not quite a concert film, not quite a documentary, "This Is It" is like nothing that has hit theaters before. It comes just months after Jackson's death, with fans still eagerly digesting every scrap of news about him. It distills more than 100 hours of footage shot as Jackson rehearsed for the concerts in the weeks before his death. And it truly is a final glimpse of an artist who ruled the pop charts in the 1980s before retreating to a reclusive life amid allegations of child molestation.

Distributor Sony is treating the film like the crown jewels, keeping it under wraps until the big blowout Tuesday night, when there will be simultaneous premieres worldwide, followed by advance screenings for paying customers ahead of Wednesday's official theatrical debut.

No critics have seen it, and entertainment journalists were shown only 12 minutes of footage last week before interviews with the filmmakers.

Jay-Z talks World Series, Broadway and DJ Hero

NEW YORK (AP)—The New York Yankees have been blasting Jay-Z's "Empire State of Mind" during their playoff run. Now, the team is having the rap king perform the song live to kick off Game 1 of the World Series.

Jay-Z and fellow New Yorker Alicia Keys are set to perform the hit on Wednesday, as the Yankees take on defending World Series champs, the Philadelphia Phillies.

"Thank the good Lord for making me a Yankee," the Brooklyn native said in an interview Monday.

He calls the opportunity a "once in a lifetime experience" and says though the jam has become an unofficial New York anthem, he's not pushing for it to be the city's theme song.

"I'm not pitching it for anything, it's just a song I made for New York City," he said.

"Really it's about inspiration, it's about hope—I think that's what connects with people. The song connects outside of New York. Every night I play it, there's a monster response, no matter if we're in Providence or whenever."

The 39-year-old rapper was busy Monday promoting the new "DJ Hero" video game, out Tuesday. A special edition of the game—"DJ Hero Renegade Edition"—features a turntable controller as well as a two CDs, one from Jay-Z and another from Eminem.

Jay-Z, who has released eleven albums, says this was an opportunity for him to release his "best of" material.

"I picked a song from each of my albums. I've never had a greatest hits, so it's pretty much like my greatest hits," he said.

He also said the new video game may make its players overconfident about their DJ skills in real life.

"It's very challenging and fun and you get lost and you start believing that you can deejay a party," he laughed. "I think some kids may go out and try to deejay a party and really mess up really bad and realize it's not as easy as it seems."

Jay-Z will also be getting involved in the Broadway play, "Fela," an Afrobeat musical about the life of Nigerian musician Fela Anikulapo-Kuti.

"It's kind of early," he said of his involvement in the musical, which also finds Will and Jada Pinkett-Smith participating.

Disney expands refunds on 'Baby Einstein' DVDs

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The Walt Disney Co. is expanding a refund program for its "Baby Einstein" videos for toddlers in response to challenges about the legitimacy of its educational claims.

The company upgraded a customer satisfaction program beginning last month by explicitly offering cash refunds on any DVDs bought from June 5, 2004 to Sept. 4.

Buyers can also exchange DVDs for a "Baby Einstein" book or music CD, or receive 25 percent off a "Little Einstein" product. The offer expires March 4.

The Campaign for a Commercial-Free Childhood, a Boston-based advocacy group, claimed "victory" Friday in its yearslong battle to protect consumers from falsely believing the videos could, for example, teach words to babies under 2 years old.

"We believe that this is an acknowledgment that baby videos are not educational," said Susan Linn, a psychologist and director of the campaign.

The campaign complained to the Federal Trade Commission in May 2006, saying claims made on "Baby Einstein" packaging and the Web site were not supportable by scientific research.

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends children under 2 years old watch no television or other "screen media."

At the time, the Disney subsidiary removed some wording from the packages and took down testimonials that claimed educational benefits from the videos on the Baby Einstein Web site.

Chris Brown to release new CD on Dec. 15

NEW YORK (AP)—Chris Brown has announced the release of his first CD since his February altercation with then-girlfriend Rihanna.

In this Feb. 7, 2009 file photo, Chris Brown arrives at the Clive Davis pre-Grammy party in Beverly Hills, Calif. AP

"Graffiti," the singer's third album, will be released on Dec. 15, he said via Twitter.

The CD's first single, "I Can Transform Ya," features Lil Wayne and Swizz Beatz.

The 20-year-old will also kick off his "Fan Appreciation" tour in Houston on Nov. 14.

Brown was sentenced in August to five years' probation, six months of community labor and a year of domestic violence counseling after he pleaded guilty to felony assault in the attack on Rihanna. He's due to perform Tuesday in New Jersey at his first concert since the attack.

'Coloring book' skewers New Orleans Mayor Nagin

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—New Orleans' controversial mayor is now officially a character.

The scathingly satirical "Ray Nagin Coloring Book" pairs the mayor's at-times baffling comments with illustrations.

Creator Karen Ocker says she hopes people think carefully about the mayor's tenure of the last seven years, including the city's slow recovery from Hurricane Katrina.

The cover shows a chocolate milk drink, riffing on Nagin's declaration that New Orleans would become a "chocolate" city in Katrina's aftermath.

Another shows his quote calling Katrina the biggest "crisis in the history of this country" with next year's election date to replace Nagin and a brass band.

Nagin's office didn't respond when asked if he has seen the book. Nagin has said his legacy will be viewed favorably in the long term.

AP

In this Sept. 24, 2009 file photo, Elizabeth Taylor speaks at the Macy's Passport Fashion Show gala in Santa Monica, Calif.

Bruce Springsteen cancels show after roadie's death

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—Bruce Springsteen canceled a performance in Kansas City after his cousin and road crew member died.

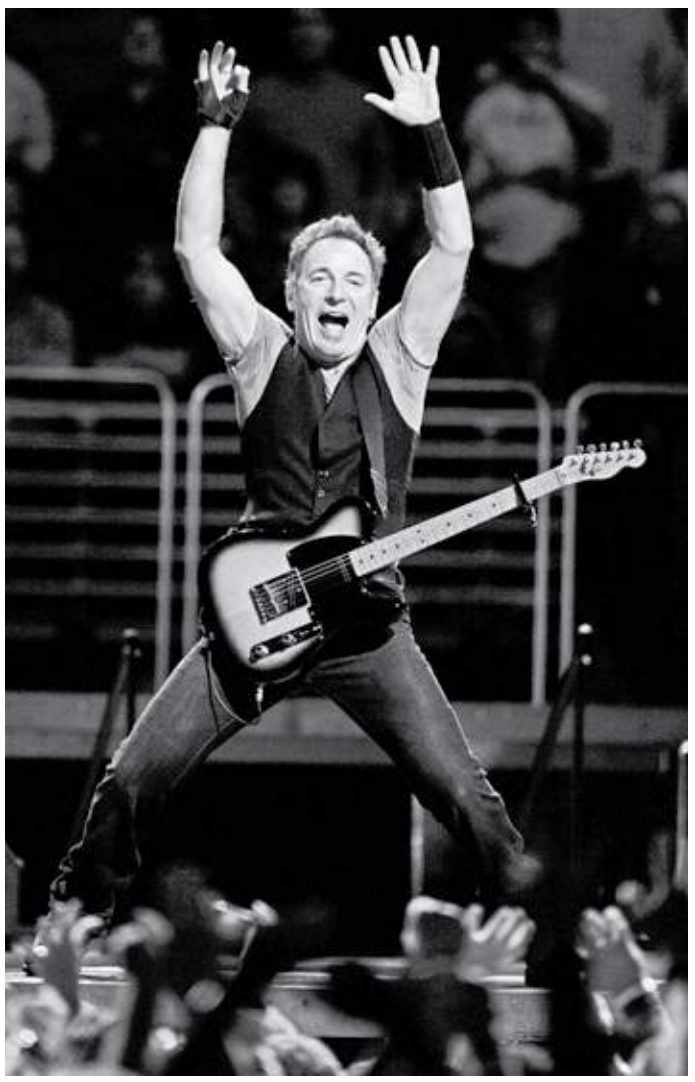
The death of 36-year-old Lenny Sullivan was announced in a statement on Springsteen's Web site.

Sullivan was found dead at Kansas City's Intercontinental Hotel hours before Springsteen and the E Street Band were to take the stage Monday night.

Kansas City police spokesman Capt. Rich Lockhart said officers were investigating the death, although he said it was not suspicious.

A call to Springsteen's publicist was not immediately returned.

The Sprint Center arena said tickets would be refunded.



In this Oct. 20, 2009 file photo, Bruce Springsteen performs with the E Street Band at the Spectrum in Philadelphia. AP

Elizabeth Taylor calls Jackson film 'brilliant'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Elizabeth Taylor says the new Michael Jackson documentary is "the single most brilliant piece of filmmaking" she has ever seen.

The 77-year-old actress and longtime Jackson friend says she saw "Michael Jackson's This Is It" last week, but was sworn to secrecy until Monday, when she posted her thoughts about the film on Twitter.

Based on rehearsal footage shot while Jackson was preparing for his series of comeback concerts, the movie "cements forever Michael's genius in every aspect of creativity," Taylor says. She urged her fans to see it "again and again."

Jackson died in June at age 50, just before he was to begin a 50-concert run in London.

"Michael Jackson's This Is It" opens worldwide Tuesday night.

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

Jon Gosselin says he returned $180K in joint funds

NORRISTOWN, Pa. (AP)—Reality TV dad Jon Gosselin says he's returned $180,000 to a joint account he shares with his estranged wife Kate as the couple continues their bitter divorce battle. Gosselin criticized his wife for not showing up Monday for a court hearing in the Philadelphia suburb of Norristown. He also says she still has not explained how she spent $33,000 in joint funds. Kate Gosselin's lawyer says she supplied the information an arbitrator wanted and did not need to appear in court. Two days of arbitration on pending divorce issues is scheduled for late November. The TLC reality show "Jon and Kate Plus Eight" has chronicled the couple's lives while raising their eight children. The Gosselins filed for divorce in June.

Miami Art Museum Director resigns

MIAMI (AP)—The director of the Miami Art Museum has resigned, effective immediately. Aaron Podhurst, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, announced in an e-mail Monday that Terence Riley had stepped down. Riley will be resuming his role as partner at Keenen/Riley Architects. Riley, appointed in 2006, will serve as a consultant at the museum until June 30. A new museum building is to break ground in the spring and open in 2013. The museum will form a search committee for a new director. Riley said that since the museum was ready to break ground on the new project, it was the right moment for him to pursue other interests and for the museum to transition to a new leader who will see the project through.

Study reinforces that kids watch a lot of TV

NEW YORK (AP)—It's not called the electronic baby sitter for nothing. The Nielsen Co. says in a study released Monday that children ages 2 to 5 watch more than 32 hours of television each week. Kids 6 to 11 spend a little less time in front of a TV screen—more than 28 hours. But that's partly because they have to go to school. According to the study, the television viewing by children 2 to 11 is the most since 1995. The younger kids, or at least their parents, are tech-savvy. The 32 hours of TV-watching includes an hour and a half of shows taped on a digital video recorder, and 4 1/2 hours of programs on a DVD. Nielsen also says children ages 6 to 11 play video games on a television for nearly 2 1/2 hours a week on average.

TV legend Norman Lear receives AARP service award

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Television legend Norman Lear has been awarded the AARP's annual Andrus Award for service. Lear received the award last week as part of AARP's annual national event and expo, which was held in Las Vegas. The honor was given to Lear for his achievements in socially transformative television, filmmaking, philanthropy and social activism. The 87-year-old Lear is the creator of shows including "All in the Family," "Sanford & Son," "Maude," and "Good Times." AARP CEO A. Barry Rand says Lear has made everyone look more closely at themselves and the society they live in and has challenged people to make life better for everyone. The Andrus Award acknowledges those who have generated positive social change in the world.

Woman's predatory boss is eager to score again

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DearAbby

DEAR ABBY: I attended a business-related function with my boss and some co-workers. I had way too much to drink and ended up having sex with my boss. (He offered me a ride to my car and took advantage of me.) If I had been sober, it would never have happened.

Since then, my boss continues to pursue me even though I have made it clear that it was a mistake and something I truly regret. I have no interest in this man. He is married, and it sickens me every time I think about it. I am too ashamed to discuss this with anyone, but my boss won't leave me alone. Please tell me what I should do.

EMBARRASSED IN CHICAGO

DEAR EMBARRASSED: Your boss is acting like a sexual predator, and has from the beginning. If you haven't been documenting his harassment, begin to do so immediately. And if anyone has seen him put the moves on you, so much the better. You should also discuss this with an attorney, and because you are "embarrassed," make it a woman.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My brother "Eric's" car was destroyed in a natural disaster four years ago. His insurance company paid for the loss, but he never replaced the car. For the next two years he borrowed one from another family member until she finally put a stop to it. For the last two years Eric has been using one of mine.

It started out as a temporary loan, but now he acts like I gave it to him. I still pay for its upkeep and insurance, because if I didn't, Eric wouldn't. I have offered to sell it to him for a reasonable price, but every time I mention it he comes up with an excuse.

I feel used. How do I tell my brother I want my car back without stepping on anyone's toes? We are a close family, and I'm afraid he'll hold a grudge if I tell him how I feel. He and his wife have full-time, well-paying jobs. My husband and I have two other vehicles, so I don't need the other one desperately. I just hate seeing it used and abused like this. Should I feel guilty about wanting my wheels back?

USED UP IN THE SOUTH

DEAR USED UP: No, you shouldn't—and your signature speaks volumes. Now pick up the phone and call your insurance agent. It is possible that because you are the legal owner of that vehicle, you could be responsible for any damage that your brother might cause while driving it.

You have been a wonderful and generous sister for having allowed him to use it for as long as he has. Because you're having trouble finding the words to tell Eric that you want him to stand on his own two feet and provide his own transportation, ask the relative who loaned him the last one to let you borrow her script.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I am regularly invited out to eat by either of two friends, both of whom are very wealthy. I have noticed that neither one leaves a 15 percent tip. They usually leave 10 or 12 percent.

I feel uncomfortable when they don't leave a server what I consider to be the minimum appropriate tip. Would it be OK for me to add to the tip they are leaving? I don't want to offend them. Please advise.

RED-FACED IN RICHMOND, CALIF.

DEAR RED-FACED: If you can find a way to do it discreetly, without embarrassing your host, I am sure your generosity would be appreciated by the server.

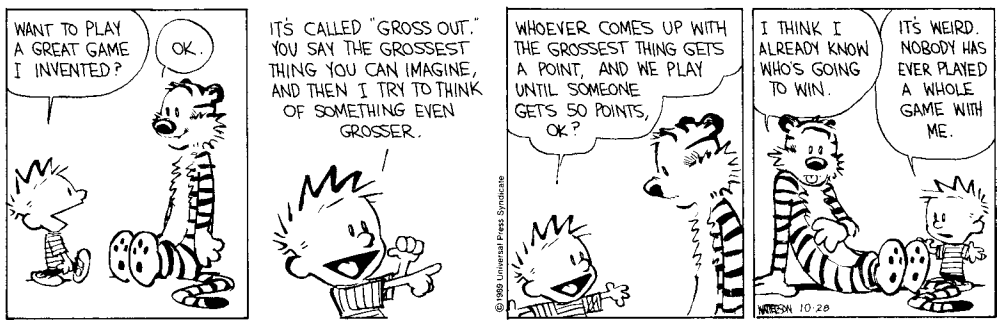
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable—and most frequently requested—poems and essays, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


WANT TO PLAY A GREAT GAME I INVENTED?
OK.
IT'S CALLED "GROSS OUT." YOU SAY THE GROSSEST THING YOU CAN IMAGINE, AND THEN I TRY TO THINK OF SOMETHING EVEN GROSSER.
WHOEVER COMES UP WITH THE GROSSEST THING GETS A POINT, AND WE PLAY UNTIL SOMEONE GETS 50 POINTS, OK?
I THINK I ALREADY KNOW WHO'S GOING TO WIN.
IT'S WEIRD. NOBODY HAS EVER PLAYED A WHOLE GAME WITH ME.
© 1989 Universal Press Syndicate
WATTERSON 10-28

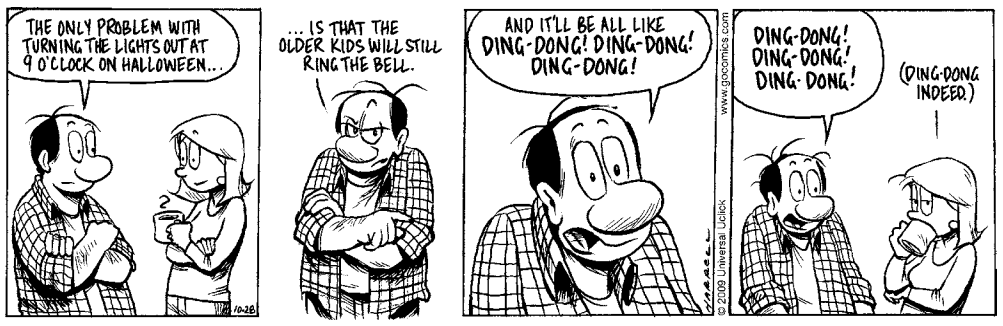
Garfield®

By Jim Davis

DID YOU BRING ME A BRAIN, IGOR?.. AN EVIL BRAIN?
YES, MASTER...
© 2009 PAWS, INC. All rights reserved.
www.garfield.com
JIM DAVIS 10-28
IT'S FROM AN INSURANCE SALESMAN!
OKAY, IGOR, NOW YOU'RE SCARING ME
SOMEONE'S BUCKING FOR "EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH"
Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


THE ONLY PROBLEM WITH TURNING THE LIGHTS OUT AT 9 O'CLOCK ON HALLOWEEN...
... IS THAT THE OLDER KIDS WILL STILL RING THE BELL.
AND IT'LL BE ALL LIKE DING-DONG! DING-DONG! DING-DONG!
DING-DONG! DING-DONG! DING-DONG!
(DING-DONG INDEED.)
www.gocomics.com
© 2009 Universal Uclick
10-28

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

I'M THINKING ABOUT INVITING SOME OF MY DOG BUDS OVER FOR A LITTLE HALLOWEEN PARTY.
www.gocomics.com
10/28
We CAN PLAY GAMES, TELL SCARY MAILMEN STORIES AND EAT A BUNCH OF DELICIOUS HALLOWEEN FOOD!
GLENN MCCOY
GREAT. THEN YOU CAN ALL LEAVE SOME BOOBY TRAPS IN THE YARD FOR ALL THE BRATTY TRICK-OR-TREATERS.
© 2009 Glenn and Gary McCoy/dist. by Universal Uclick

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Resistance unit
4 Low range
8 Terrible guy?
12 Pair with an air
13 Met melody
14 Mature
15 Freddy's street
16 Sample of signage
18 Impudent
20 Heavy weight
21 Greek peak
24 London newspaper
28 Montana city
32 Bear lair
33 Yoko —
34 Frat party garb
36 Feminine principle
37 Garbage barge
39 Wallet
41 Red River capital
43 — out (supplemented)
44 Eggs
46 Leaves at the library?
50 Kid's pop
55 "The 7 Faces of Dr. —"
56 Garfield's pal
57 Hindu princess
58 Doctrine
59 Enter
60 Related
61 Spelldown

DOWN
1 Poetic tributes
2 Luau entertainment
3 Mid-May honorees
4 Watch Junior
5 "Entourage" character
6 Part of RSVP
7 Sodium chloride
8 Kinda funny
9 By way of
10 Spring mo.
11 Homer's neighbor
17 Automaton, for short
19 Scale member
22 Uppity one
23 One majoring in farming
25 BLT enhancer
26 Satan's specialty
27 Transmit
28 "Poppycock!"
29 Bygone Peruvian
30 Crazy sort
31 Polio vaccine discoverer
35 Ignored the alarm
38 Fleecy
40 HHS division
42 Wall climber
45 Taj Mahal city
47 Smooth-talking
48 Facility
49 A few
50 Cranberry territory
51 Altar affirmative
52 Roman 52
53 Acorn creator
54 Blackbird

Solution time: 21 mins.

T	W	A	S	■	A	S	E	A	■	A	R	M
W	A	R	M	■	C	H	E	M	■	R	H	O
A	R	T	I	C	H	O	K	E	■	T	E	L
■	■	■	T	H	E	E	■	R	A	H	A	L
O	M	A	H	A	■	■	B	I	R	R	■	■
W	I	R	Y	■	S	T	I	C	K	I	N	G
E	S	T	■	A	O	R	T	A	■	T	O	E
S	C	H	E	D	U	L	E	■	F	I	N	N
■	■	U	R	A	L	■	■	B	E	S	E	T
S	C	R	A	M	■	A	B	E	L	■	■	■
U	R	I	■	A	R	T	I	L	L	E	R	Y
M	O	A	■	N	O	O	K	■	A	L	O	E
O	W	N	■	T	Y	P	E	■	S	K	E	W

Yesterday's answer 10-28

1	2	3	■	4	5	6	7	■	8	9	10	11
12			■	13				■	14			
15			■	16				17				
18			19		■	■	20			■	■	■
■	■	■	21		22	23	■	24		25	26	27
28	29	30					31	■	32			
33			■	34				35	■	36		
37			38	■	39				40			
41				42	■	43				■	■	■
■	■	■	44		45	■	■	46		47	48	49
50	51	52				53	54		■	55		
56				■	57					58		
59					60					61		

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Joaquin Phoenix, 35; Julia Roberts, 42; Bill Gates, 54; Bruce Jenner, 60

Happy Birthday: You can delve into areas personally and professionally that you haven't been able to break into in the past. The time has come to share your ideas, interests and intentions. Emotional matters can be resolved and a trust issue that may have been bothering you can be cleared up, allowing you to move forward. Your numbers are 1, 8, 12, 24, 33, 40, 43

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): There is plenty going on behind closed doors that you may want to look into. If anyone around you is being secretive, you should question why. Being left out of something that may influence your life personally or professionally is apparent. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): You'll be in the limelight if you aren't careful. Choose your battles and refrain from talking about something you know little about. You will receive poor information and may be blamed for meddling if you pass along what you hear. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Use your insight and charm to weather any storm brewing at work or with your peers. Be careful not to offer too much to someone looking for a handout. This person may also want to take credit for something you contributed. ✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Don't hold back when you have so much to gain by sharing and pushing your ideas. An emotional encounter will help you clarify where you stand and what your options are. Be forward-thinking and take action. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Don't take anything or anyone for granted. The time to lay your cards on the table honestly and openly is now. Alterations at home can bring financial gain. Look into changes that will save you emotionally and financially. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): You'll be attracted to someone who may be off-limits. Keep things simple and avoid letting anyone know how you feel. Mixing business with pleasure may be enticing but it's certainly not practical. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Your past performance may be brought out into the open now by someone looking for attention. Offer friendship, help and courtesy and you will avoid a situation that will make you nervous. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Use your wit to come out on top when dealing with personal situations that can alter the way things are done at home. You can't let anyone persuade you to do things that don't suit your needs. ✪✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Avoid any serious pursuits. You need to recharge and to put things in perspective. Have some fun with someone you enjoy spending time with and you will find it much easier to face the responsibilities that you have taken on. ✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Reviving treasured memories will help you realize what you have given up and what you should try to incorporate back into your life. Go after jobs that allow you to put your skills, talents and things you enjoy to the test. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Don't let someone's anger stop you from doing what you feel is best for you. There is money to be made or saved. Someone from your past will be able to shed some light on a situation that makes no sense to you. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Your emotions will be difficult to control but, if you follow your heart, you can sort out differences regarding money, contracts or other negotiations. Don't let your own uncertainty ruin a good partnership. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, caring and affectionate. You love a challenge and you show your strength and courage when faced with adversity. You are strong-willed.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

			2	3	6			
		3				4		
	8	2				7	3	
8								3
6								7
	1	4	5		8	6	9	
			9		5			
		5				2		
		8	4	6	7	1		

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/28

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

2	3	8	6	1	9	7	5	4
1	9	5	7	3	4	6	8	2
6	4	7	2	5	8	3	9	1
7	5	2	3	6	1	9	4	8
8	6	9	4	7	2	1	3	5
4	1	3	9	8	5	2	7	6
5	8	6	1	9	7	4	2	3
9	2	1	8	4	3	5	6	7
3	7	4	5	2	6	8	1	9

Difficulty Level ★★ 10/27

©2007 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

WIDE-STRIPED SWEATERS **Solution: 7 letters**

D	R	S	C	D	E	B	B	I	R	K	N	E	Y	F
R	E	H	T	A	E	W	M	R	A	W	L	V	R	O
A	V	R	N	R	S	R	I	T	T	A	A	O	C	R
Y	O	N	E	O	E	H	E	M	S	E	N	I	A	M
O	L	G	B	D	T	T	M	Y	H	T	O	G	S	T
N	L	I	A	G	I	T	C	E	A	E	I	U	U	T
R	U	S	N	L	R	O	O	H	R	L	T	N	A	D
E	P	E	D	A	I	T	R	C	D	E	I	S	L	E
T	L	D	E	D	N	A	R	B	L	C	D	E	N	T
T	U	W	D	O	C	S	T	E	M	E	A	R	R	R
A	S	N	S	R	O	O	B	E	N	E	R	O	E	O
P	H	A	Y	F	W	A	L	I	D	D	T	T	D	P
(B)	(E)	(L)	(T)	L	L	A	L	O	P	E	N	S	O	M
S	I	Y	T	R	O	P	S	T	R	I	H	S	M	I
C	L	O	T	H	I	N	G	H	W	S	T	Y	L	E

© 2009 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com 10/28

Acrylic, Banded, Belt, Brand, Cashmere, Casual, Clothing, Colors, Cotton, Design, Detail, Embroidered, Form, Front, Heavy, Hems, Imported, Label, Layered, Length, Lined, Modern, Nylon, Open, Pattern, Plush, Pullover, Rayon, Ribbed, Sale, Season, Shirt, Snug, Soft, Sporty, Store, Stretch, Style, Traditional, Trend, Tunic, Waist, Warm, Wash, Wear, Weather, Winter

Yesterday's Answer: Fireplace

SALE: The topics of "Wonderword for Kids" appeal to younger fans but the puzzle difficulty matches what you've come to expect from Wonderword. For a limited time, the book is on sale for just $4 each (U.S. funds only, payable to Universal Uclick. Include $3 postage for the first book order, $1 each for each additional book. Send to Wonderword, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106 or call toll-free, 1-800-642-6480. **Order online at upuzzles.com.**

CLASSIFIED ADS

WHATZIT Solution: Bold as brass

FOR SALE $$$

1,030 shares of United Micronesian Development Association par value $30.00 per share. Call 288-3571

WANTED TO BUY

Looking for Used Car, Good running condition. We pay CASH! Please call 287-7676.

FOR SALE

For sale bar benches with tables 299.00. DVD Karaoke player 279.00. AC Unit 279-219.00. Call 287-8371

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 2-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/ 24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/ students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Sunsetview Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Night-time security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

DRUNK DRIVING
Over the limit. Under arrest.

EMPLOYMENT

Saipan Laboratory Technician for insurance svcs • Proficient in phlebotomy • Performed 300+ blood draws within past 2 yrs • Must have own vehicle. Call (671) 647-1100 email guam@llpacific.com

Computer Repair
Only $25 Minor Problem
WE ALSO FIX LAPTOP & USED PARTS
We Buy Used Computer & Printer.
CaluaTrax 233-5641 Open 7 Days a Week 9:00 AM-9:00 PM

LOST PASSPORT

Name : Zhou Xiujuan
Date of Birth : May 3, 1978
Passport No. : G04234998
Contact No. : 483-8088

LOST PASSPORT

Name : Li Lianjun
Date of Birth : Aug. 18, 1963
Passport No. : G12253720
Contact No. : 287-9799

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

BRASS

© 2009 WHATZIT? is a trademark of Paul Sellers Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate

Find today's solution in this section

JOE HILL, Esq.,
HILL LAW OFFICES
P.O. Box 500917, Saipan, MP 96950
Phone: (670) 234-6806/7743
Fax: (670) 234-7753

Attorney for Petitioner

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

CORAZON D. AGUINALDO -LUCERO, Petitioner, vs. ALFREDO D. LUCERO Respondent.) Civil Action No. 09-0599) SUMMONS

TO THE ABOVE –NAMED RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish too make to the Petition for Divorce which is given you herewith, within thirty (30) days after service of this Summons upon you.

YOUR ANSWER SHOULD BE IN WRITING and filed with the Clerk of Court, Guma' Hustisia, Limwal Aweewe, House of Justice, P.O. Box 500307, Saipan, MP 96950 and served upon petitioner's counsel, Atty. Joe Hill, P.O. Box 500917, Susupe, Saipan MP 96950. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, Judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Petition for Divorce.

By order of the above Court:

Dated this 16th day of October, 2009.

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court
Superior Court

Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Fitial says decision to end Aggreko 'far from certain'
CUC emergency extended anew
'CUC unlikely to meet EPA deadlines'
9 percent drop in foreign investors
Movie Awards
Subscribe to the CNMI's First Daily Newspaper
235-NEWS

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 7-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $25 per 3 liner ad for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of below packages that fits your budget.

ADS (7DAYS)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$25
• 5-Liner	$35
• 3-Liner with picture	$45
• 5-Liner with picture	$55

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- *Saipan Tribune:* All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Even players not sure free agency risk worth it

AP

Cleveland Cavaliers' LeBron James is reflected in the floor as he stretches before the NBA preseason basketball game against the Dallas Mavericks in Pittsburgh, Tuesday, Oct. 20, 2009.

By BRIAN MAHONEY
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

A rebuilding strategy centered on chasing the likes of LeBron James, Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh makes perfect sense to a team like the New York Knicks.

Wade and Bosh aren't so sure. Charles Barkley thinks it's "stupid."

Trying to win through free agency is risky in the NBA, yet the Knicks, New Jersey Nets and Miami Heat clearly seem to be leaning in that direction. They appear to have no Plan B.

"I mean, those are teams who are putting all their eggs in the basket," Bosh said.

Those clubs are positioned to be farthest under the salary cap next summer, waiting with checkbooks open when a blockbuster free agent class arrives. James is the headliner, with Wade, Bosh and Amare Stoudemire among the other All-Stars who could be available.

Throw in names like Yao Ming, Dirk Nowitzki, Ray Allen, Tracy McGrady, Carlos Boozer and Joe Johnson, all of whom could be on the market, and it's obvious why teams are lining up for the chance to be spenders.

Bad strategy, said Barkley, who considers James the only franchise changer.

"To put your fans through all the losing and then you don't get that quote-unquote savior, I don't think it's fair at all," Barkley said. "These teams have all become losers. They're all shedding their good players and their contracts for one guy. And I'm like, that doesn't do your fan base any good, but also if you don't get that guy, what do you do?"

Seven teams could be more than $10 million under the cap, and most of those were cautious or inactive this summer so they could save their money for next July. With the caliber of players who could be available, it's an understandable decision.

But Wade offers a warning: Buyers beware.

"When you think about how many teams that quote-unquote are waiting around, you've got to remember there's not that many franchise players to fill every team, from the looks of it now," Wade said. "For everybody to wait around, it is kind of like swinging a bat with your eyes closed. You don't know if you're going to hit it or not."

And that's just one reason some people say you can't win in the NBA by trying to build through free agency.

"I disagree with that. I think that's the quickest way to get up to the contending class," Knicks president Donnie Walsh said. "I think a lot of people back when I started doing this, they used to build through the draft. That's going to take you a long time.

"First of all, let's say you need four or five players. That's four or five years. And then when you get all the players, they have to play together to become a team, and then you have to be right on every pick. So that's seven, eight years. So I think you can shortcut that."

Walsh said from the moment he arrived in New York in April 2008 that his goal was to get into the free agent market in two years, and he's done it. The Knicks will have about $23 million in cap space next July. That's about the same as the Nets, who have shed payroll by dealing Jason Kidd, Richard Jefferson and Vince Carter in recent years, and roughly $5 million more than the Heat.

Having money and getting players to take it are entirely different things. Chicago learned that when it tried to rebuild after Michael Jordan retired the second time, only to find no amount of money was worth the pressure of trying to replace him.

Orlando's strategy a decade ago was to land Tim Duncan and Grant Hill. It had to settle for Hill and McGrady, and never won a title. Duncan stayed in San Antonio and won three more.

"There's a combination of guys who make you a championship contender, but to make that risk when there's so many other teams doing the same thing, the risk isn't worth the reward, because the consequences can be fatal," said Kenny Smith, Barkley's TNT studio partner. "You risk having this money and then having to give it to guys that aren't really going to make you a different team."

NBA rules allow teams to pay their free agents more than other teams, making it harder to pry a player away. James could make $125.7 million in a six-year deal by staying in Cleveland, but earn "only" $96.2 million over five if he goes elsewhere.

Plus, the Knicks and Nets would have to interest him in leaving a title contender for a rebuilding team.

"Everybody wants to win," said Hornets All-Star Chris Paul, a friend and Olympic teammate of James and Wade. "So let the Heat win the championship this year, you think D-Wade's going somewhere? Let 'Bron win the championship, you think he's going somewhere?

The Knicks aren't scared by talk like that.

"I think there's a lot of factors involved," said coach Mike D'Antoni, who engineered a huge turnaround in Phoenix after the Suns signed Steve Nash. "The city's involved and the amount of money's involved and whether you can win or not's involved, your teammates are involved, the coach's involved, the style, all that.

"Now one player might want more money over winning, one winning over money. They all say it's about winning, but a lot of times it's about the money. So I just don't think you can generalize and you've just got to take it by case-by-case basis."

The Knicks have plenty of money, and so will the Nets if their proposed sale to Russian billionaire Mikhail Prokhorov goes through. But this isn't like baseball, where there is no salary cap and the New York Yankees spent $423.5 million last offseason on CC Sabathia, A.J. Burnett and Mark Teixeira, and find themselves in the World Series.

Spend too much on one or two players in the NBA, and there may not be enough left to fill out a championship-caliber roster—especially with the cap expected to decline next summer as a result of the economic downturn. That's something else James would have to consider, but D'Antoni shakes off that concern, too.

"I would think you'd try to get guys that (think), 'Where I go, they'll win no matter who they are,'" he said. "That's kind of the guys that we would like to entice, that they're the difference makers."

There often aren't enough of them, with Shaquille O'Neal's move from Orlando to Los Angeles in 1996 the last major free agency transaction to yield an NBA title. A few teams are hoping it can happen again.

"You've got 25 starters that's going to be free agents, but to be bad for three years for that, that's a tough pill to swallow," Smith said. "You've got to be good in 2010, that's what I would say. If you're not good in 2010, there's a lot of people that will be trying to get jobs next to me and Charles."

A Jackson jig: Eagles roll, beat Redskins

LANDOVER,Md. (AP)—DeSean Jackson scored on a 67-yard run and a 57-yard reception, both in the first half. His night might have been perfect if his tender right ankle hadn't messed up his touchdown tap dance.

"I was out there having fun, man, honestly," Jackson said. "My ankle was kind of hurting. I really didn't feel it, but it did kind of affect my dance a little bit. I could put it to perfection a little bit better than that."

The Philadelphia Eagles had reason to do the soft shoe Monday night as they rebounded from an embarrassing loss and dispatched the Washington Redskins 27-17. Three turnovers were converted into points as the visitors raced to a 20-point lead in a game that was as lopsided as expected.

Donovan McNabb completed 15 of 25 passes for 156 yards, getting his 200th touchdown pass and surpassing 30,000 yards passing for his career. The defense sacked Jason Campbell six times, and newcomer Will Witherspoon ran back an interception for a touchdown and created another turnover—even though he's been with the team less than a week.

Nearly all the scoring came in the first half of an injury-filled game as the Eagles (4-2) regained their stride after last week's jarring loss to the Oakland Raiders. The scariest moment for Philadelphia came when Brian Westbrook left in the first quarter with a concussion. Coach Andy Reid said he expects Westbrook to recover fully but wasn't certain whether his star running back will play next week.

The news was bad all around for the Redskins (2-5), who got no discernible boost from Sherm Lewis' debut as a play caller and lost Pro Bowl tight end Chris Cooley to a broken right ankle. The offensive line is already a mess without Chris Samuels and Randy Thomas, and the team still hasn't scored more than 17 points in a game this season.

"You can say but so much," defensive tackle Albert Haynesworth said. "You've got to actually want to. So once we get to that point—where we want to do something—then we'll do something. But if we just keep going our separate ways, then we'll just keep getting slaughtered like we have."

Jackson scored on the fourth play from scrimmage, scampering on a reverse down the left sideline untouched almost all the way thanks in part to downfield blocking from Jeremy Maclin. It was the longest Philadelphia run of the season by far—the team's previous best was 25 yards.

Jackson got his second score when he put a double move on Carlos Rogers and got wide open down the left side, turning a third-and-22 at the Philadelphia 43 into six points in the final two minutes of the first half.

Jackson also had a 29-yard punt return and played the second half with a right foot injury that required X-rays at halftime.

"He's wicked fast," Redskins coach Jim Zorn said.

Witherspoon, acquired in a trade with the St. Louis Rams on Tuesday, started at middle linebacker because of Omar Gaither's season-ending foot injury. The new guy returned an interception 9 yards for a touchdown and knocked the ball away from Campbell for a fumble that set up a field goal. Safety Quintin Mikell helped with both turnovers, blitzing to tip the pass that Witherspoon picked off, and recovering the fumble after Campbell was stripped.

"You can't expect to get a sack, cause a fumble, turnover, interception for touchdown—whatever," Witherspoon said. "It's like, 'What? Who in their right mind would think that in their first game?' But when it comes down to it, it happened."

Westbrook was hurt when his helmet collided with linebacker London Fletcher's right knee at the end of a 5-yard run. The running back remained on the ground for several minutes before he was helped up and led off the field directly to the locker room.

"It looked bad," Mikell said. "Anytime a guy is just out like that and not responding, you don't know what's going on. We were praying."

Offensive consultant Lewis has been with the Redskins for only three weeks after being lured out of a retirement consisting of bingo-calling and serving Meals on Wheels—and his first try at calling the plays proved as unsuccessful as when Zorn was handling the task.

Zorn was stripped of the duty by the front office after last week's loss to Kansas City, causing so much consternation that the front office then felt the need to announce that Zorn won't be fired anytime soon.

It made no difference. The makeshift offensive line again failed to protect Campbell or create room for Clinton Portis, who rushed for only 43 yards and at one point chucked his helmet on the sideline in frustration.

"Well, the result was the same. We got 17 points," Zorn said. "It was difficult for me. It was difficult to stand and watch. The hard part is to keep your mouth shut."

Campbell finished 29 for 43 for 284 yards and two touchdowns. He threw his seventh interception of the season, one more than he had all last season. Washington trailed 27-10 at halftime, and Campbell's consolation touchdown pass to Fred Davis in the final two minutes was the only score of the second half.

"You have to take the bitter with the sweet," running back Rock Cartwright said. "And right now we're at a bitter moment."

Star power: Phillies, Yankees set for World Series

NEWYORK (AP)—They boast All-Stars all over the diamond, high-priced players decorated with coveted awards. They come loaded with October experience and shiny rings, expecting to win another World Series.

Impressive team ... these Philadelphia Phillies.

Hardly a bunch of slouches on the other side, either. Derek Jeter, Mariano Rivera, Andy Pettitte and the New York Yankees are a model of postseason success, eager to include Alex Rodriguez in a championship celebration.

A pair of franchises separated by a 90-minute ride on the New Jersey Turnpike, with no real rivalry to speak of despite their century-long histories.

That could change starting Wednesday night. Ryan Howard, Jimmy Rollins and the defending champ Phils are set to dig in against CC Sabathia in Game 1 at Yankee Stadium.

"I think the fact that we're playing the Yankees and it's close to Philadelphia and how the fans and the media react to it and how both cities look forward to it, that puts more icing on the cake," Phillies manager Charlie Manuel said Monday. "It does something for the game."

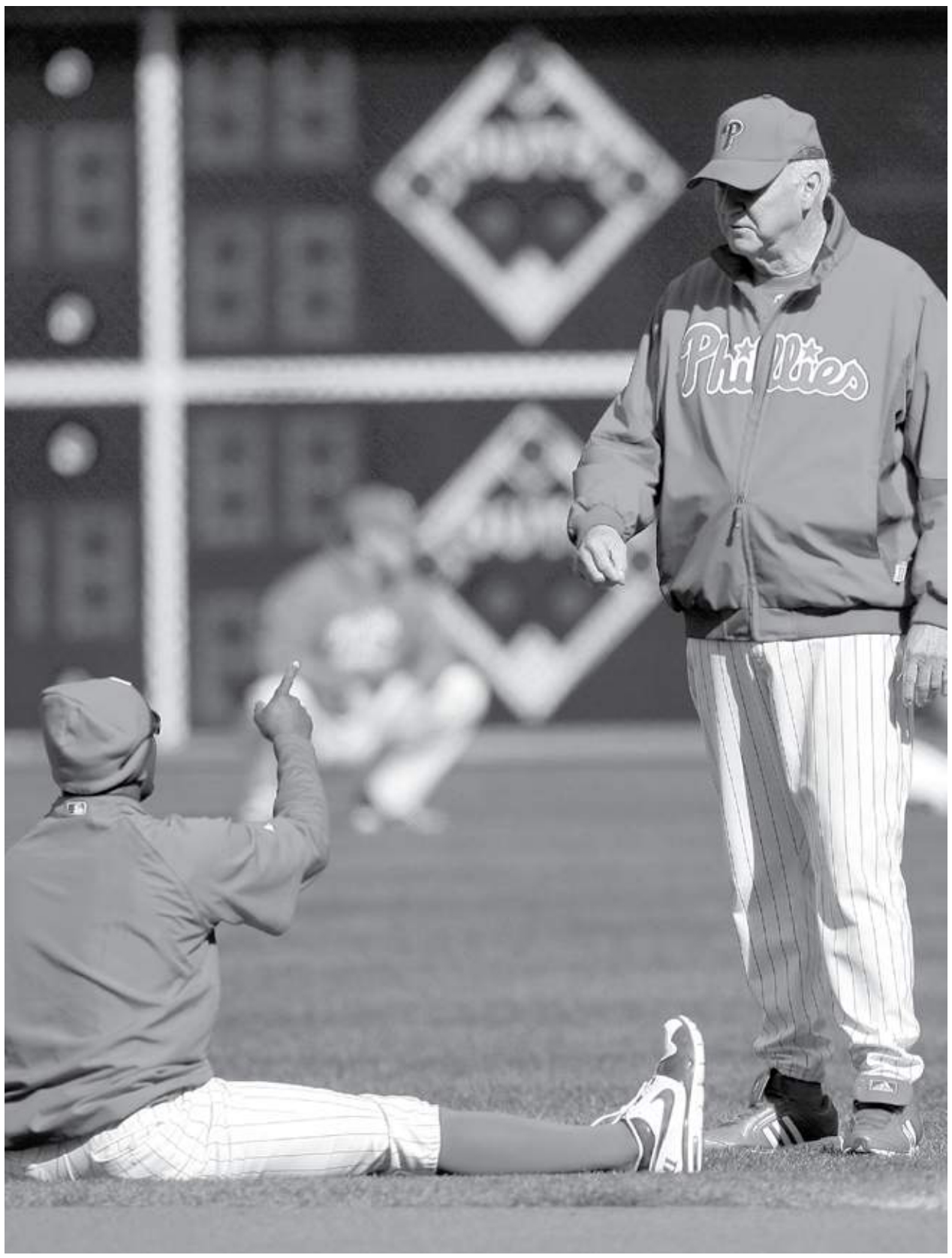
The Phillies worked out at Citizens Bank Park before hopping an Amtrak train for the hour-plus trip to Penn Station in Manhattan. Whether they ride back up next week will be decided later—none of the last five World Series has lasted more than five games.

In the meantime, all aboard!

How much of the country will tune into the all-Northeast matchup remains to be seen. The folks in Las Vegas already have taken a look—in spite of the Phillies' credentials, the Yankees are heavy 2-to-1 favorites.

Philadelphia is trying to become the NL's first repeat champion since the 1975-76 Big Red Machine. The Yankees return to the Series for the first time since 2003, having last won in 2000.

Cliff Lee opens for the Phillies, hoping to continue their run that includes a five-game romp over Tampa Bay in last year's World Series. At 16-4, Philadelphia has assembled the best record over a 20-game span by an NL team in postseason history.



AP

Philadelphia Phillies' Jimmy Rollins, left, and manager Charlie Manuel talk as Rollins stretches before baseball practice, Monday, Oct. 26, 2009, in Philadelphia.

Manuel hasn't shown any tendency to pitch around opposing sluggers, so Lee, Cole Hamels and Pedro Martinez figure to challenge Rodriguez from the get-go. A-Rod hit .438 with five home runs and 12 RBIs through the playoffs. This is his first foray into baseball's big event.

"A lot of great players have never had the opportunity to play in the World Series," Rodriguez said Sunday night after the Yankees' clinching win over the Angels in Game 6 of the AL championship series.

"It's been a dream of mine since I was a 5-year-old boy to play in the World Series. In order to win the World Series, you have to get there and we've done that now," he said.

It's a power-packed matchup, marking the first time since 1926 the World Series pits the teams that finished 1-2 in the majors in home runs, according to STATS LLC. Back then, Babe Ruth and Yankees led with 121, followed by St. Louis with 90.

This year, Mark Teixeira and the Yankees hit 244 and the Phillies tied with Texas at 224.

Add in two homer-friendly parks, along with the teams that led their leagues in runs, and runs could flow. Then again, everyone knows that pitching rules the postseason—neither Manuel nor Yankees manager Joe Girardi has announced his plans, though New York seems to be leaning toward a three-man rotation of Sabathia, A.J. Burnett and Pettitte.

But what about Brad Lidge? A postseason star last year, the Phillies reliever was a bust this season. That is, until this October—he was the only closer in the playoffs who did not give up a run.

Also worth watching: the forecast.

After last year's World Series ended with a game suspended two days because of rain, more wet weather might be on the way.

AccuWeather.com said a storm was headed toward the Bronx and predicted rain and temperatures in the mid-50s for Game 1, with the drizzle possibly lingering for Game 2 Thursday night.

The first World Series game at the new, $1.5 billion Yankee Stadium will be played across the street from the old ballpark, where a record 26 championship banners flew.

"There's definitely a special mystique when you walk into Yankee Stadium, new or old," Phillies outfielder Jayson Werth said. "It's the cathedral of baseball, where everybody wanted to play as a kid."

McGwire joins Cardinals as hitting coach

ST. LOUIS (AP)—Mark McGwire is back in baseball, reunited with Tony La Russa as the St. Louis Cardinals' hitting coach.

La Russa agreed to return for a 15th year as manager Monday with a one-year contract, the first time he hasn't had a multiyear deal with the team. All of his coaches will return except for Hal McRae, who will be replaced by the former star.

"Mark is passionate about the game, passionate about the Cardinals," chairman Bill DeWitt Jr. said. "Tony thinks he'll be a great coach, and I think he's got a lot to offer."

McGwire was not at the news conference at Busch Stadium, but La Russa and general manager John Mozeliak said there will be no effort to shield McGwire from questions about steroids. The team anticipated a telephone news conference with McGwire.

"By no means is he trying to hide, and by no means are we trying to hide him," Mozeliak said.

McGwire hit a then-record 70 home runs in 1998 and retired with 583 homers and a .263 career average in 2001. He famously refused to answer questions about steroids use during a March 2005 congressional hearing, saying he wasn't there to talk about the past.

Former congressman Tom Davis, who led the committe that held the hearings, told the Daily News of New York that he welcomed the news.

"I think he's entitled to another chance," Davis told the newspaper.

McGwire has received just under 25 percent support from voters in his three appearances on the Hall of Fame ballot, well under the 75 percent needed. La Russa hopes the 46-year-old can use this position to repair a tarnished image.

"I'm a big fan of his," the manager said. "He's back in uniform and, hopefully, people will see his greatness. But the No. 1 reason he's here is to coach our hitters."

La Russa said he first contacted McGwire about the coaching job a week earlier, when he was still supposedly mulling his future. He said McGwire showed immediate interest, but the manager said the steroids topic was not broached.

"It's up to Mark how he wants to handle it," La Russa said. "What we want him to do is coach our hitters, and if he does that well, we're going to be happy."

La Russa had been attempting to persuade McGwire to return to the team as a spring training instructor for several seasons. La Russa managed McGwire for all but one of his 16 seasons, both in Oakland and St. Louis.

McGwire has worked with Cardinals hitters and other major leaguers in recent offseasons at his California home. The group includes Matt Holliday, which could make McGwire an asset in the team's negotiations with the free agent outfielder.

Cardinals hitters such as leadoff man Skip Schumaker have long been complimentary of McGwire's tutoring, and La Russa said he has witnessed McGwire's ability to pass on hitting knowledge.

La Russa said McGwire always refused the Cardinals' previous offers because his family was younger.

"I watched some sessions and I said, `Wow, he really has a good approach,'" La Russa said. "He's got the whole thing—mechanics, the power of the mind. So I asked him."

La Russa, who turned 65 on Oct. 4, had been assessing his interest in returning since the NL Central champion Cardinals were swept in the division series by the Los Angeles Dodgers on Oct. 10. His $8.5 million, two-year contract was to expire at the end of the month, and he said he finalized his decision last weekend.

"I would be here if Mark wasn't the coach," La Russa said. "The fact that he's here adds some more fire to the gut."

La Russa has produced eight playoff teams and the Cardinals have drawn 3 million-plus fans at home in 11 of his 14 seasons. He and DeWitt both said the one-year contract is better because La Russa reassesses his interest every year, and not because the manager is looking at 2010 as a farewell.

"I know there's an end in sight somewhere," La Russa said. "This is a great place to be. Past stars show up all the time. You've got to be a mummy not to be affected by that."

McRae was hitting coach for five seasons, but the team struggled offensively toward the end of the season and in the playoffs. The Cardinals hit .133 (4 for 30) with runners in scoring position in the postseason.

Pitching coach Dave Duncan also will return. He became upset with the organization, fans and reporters when his son, outfielder Chris Duncan, was traded to Boston in July. The Red Sox released Chris Duncan soon after the trade.

"Where he coaches, that's where I want to manage," La Russa said. "He's that good."

UBA Miller Lite cage meeting tomorrow

The Inaugural UBA Miller Lite Men's Basketball League will have its first organizational meeting tomorrow, Oct. 29, 6:30pm at the Garapan Basketball Court.

United Basketball Association president James Lee said teams interested in taking part in the maiden season of the competition should send a representative to the meeting.

Sponsored by NTT Docomo Pacific and Pacific Trading Co., the UBA Miller Lite Men's Basketball League will kick off on Dec. 7.

The competition will have 12 slots available in a first-come, first-serve basis with the champion team taking home $1,000 courtesy of title sponsor PTC.

The league is open to players 21 years old and above and the entry fee is $450, which is inclusive of jerseys for the 12 players each team is allowed to have in their rosters.

The league will be played at the Garapan Basketball Court with the Top 8 teams after the round-robin eliminations advancing to the playoffs. The championship will then be a best-of-three affair.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Garapan Basketball Court will again be a beehive of activity when the Inaugural UBA Miller Lite Men's Basketball League kicks off on Dec. 7.

Aside from the $1,000 top prize, the champion team will also take home a handsomely crafted championship trophy, Docomo Pacific long distance phone cards, cases of drinks from PTC, and free entrance to next season's Miller Lite Men's League.

Final and regular season MVPs, meanwhile, will win trophies, Docomo Pacific long distance phone cards, Docomo Pacific cellphones, and other prizes.

Lee added that all participating players, coaches, and managers of the league will get a one week free trial at Gold's Gym and free health screening at Mariano Chiropractice Clinic. Everyone will also get free entrance and drinks, courtesy of PTC, at the championship party that will be held at the Club V of Saipan Grand Hotel.

While PTC and Docomo Pacific are the main sponsors, other companies that are making the league possible are Monsters, Pepsi, Gold's Gym, Mariano Chiropractic Clinic, Tan Siu Lin Foundation, Power 99 FM, ABC 7, and Saipan Grand Hotel.

Deadline for the submission of entrance fee (at least 50 percent) and rosters are on Nov. 16.

For more information about the Inaugural UBA Miller Lite Men's Basketball League, call Lee at 989-8221. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

Loyola tennis lessons moved to Saipan Grand

Tennis instructor Peter Loyola announced that lessons conducted at Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan has been temporarily moved to the Saipan Grand Hotel tennis court.

The change in venue took effect yesterday and will last for three weeks, as the tennis facility at Fiesta will undergo renovation for a tournament next month.

Loyola said Level 1 lessons every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday will run from 3:30pm to 4:30pm, while Level 2 from Monday through Friday will be from 4:30pm to 5:30pm. The Level 3 sessions every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday will take place from 5:30pm to 6:30pm.

Private and individual lessons everyday will go ahead as scheduled, also at Saipan Grand. There will be no lesson on Sunday morning.

Loyola is asking for cooperation and understanding of players/students for the temporary change in the venue.

Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan tennis facility will be renovated in preparation for the Tan Holdings Tennis Classic next month.

The tournament will run from Nov. 20 to 29 and with a lot of players expected to compete in the NMITA-sanctioned event, games will be played both at the Fiesta tennis facility and the American Memorial Park tennis court.

HYATT

From Page 28

period to complete Hyatt's domination of Customs.

Customs dropped to a 1-7 record, despite getting double figures from four players. Ray Lizama top-scored for Customs with 14, Jake Maratita nailed 13, and Dennis Reyes and J.P. Sablan chipped in 11 apiece.

Meanwhile, the McGraw/Hill-backed Public School System ended its campaign in the regular season on a winning note after downing Micronesian Brokers, Inc., 72-66.

Joe Villacrusis led PSS' seventh win in 11 games, scoring 23 points.

Ivan De Vero tallied 31 points for MBI, which absorbed its fifth loss in 10 games.

Monday's Game

Hyatt 95 – Sablan 39, Delos Reyes 21, Libuw 11, Lizama 8, Aquino 7, Hartmen 4, Tudela 3, Gabaldon 2.

Customs 68 – R. Lizama 14, Maratita 13, J.P. Sablan 11, D. Reyes 11, L. Reyes 7, R. Sablan 4, J. Sablan 4, J. Lizama 3, Billy 2.

Scoring by quarters: 26-14, 45-31, 67-49, 95-68.

Friday's Game

PSS 72 – J. Villacrusis 23, Tumaquip 13, Manibusan 8, Mendez 5, Aughenbaugh 4, Delos Reyes 4, Villagomez 4, Coldeen 2, Cruz 2, Guerrero 2, Mendiola 2, Itibus 1.

MBI 66 – De Vero 31, Gapor 12, Capalad 8, Nonato 7, Guiab 6, Achas 2.

Scoring by quarters: 31-13, 42-24, 52-53, 72-66.

MIEKO

From Page 28

race against myself, and did my best," Carey said.

The 31-year-old triathlete said it was a sight to have more than 500 athletes starting the race and jockeying for position in the waters off Makena in Maui, Hawaii.

"There were 550 athletes and we started all together. The water temperature was nice and I could see turtles. When the horn sounded, all swimmers turned info fighters. People swam over me and pulled my legs. People drank water and some lost their goggles when somebody hit them," Carey said.

With a lot of swimmers hounding her, Carey said she was not able to pull away and ended up completing the swim course in 23:49.

"Most of the top triathletes were here, so everyone is a good swimmer, good biker, and good runner. It was hard to break away from the pack. I swam in the pack during the whole swim course," said the XTERRA Japan champion.

Next up was the bike course, which according to Carey was still hard even though she had been to the course three times.

"Even though I knew the bike course and prepared for this course, it was still a challenge. It was a challenge to ride on the sand, rocks, and dirt. In some places you can't see what is on the ground because of dust. Many people crashed and had flat tires. I was lucky that I didn't have any mechanical problems or crash. I didn't get sick this year either," said Carey, who timed in at 2:09:20 in the bike race.

With the temperature in Makena on Sunday reading at 84 degrees Fahrenheit, the run portion of the race was as challenging as the bike leg.

"It was very hot. There was no shade and I felt like I was going to get dehydrated. I tried to drink at all of the aid stations and pour water on my head. I was happy that I never walked during the entire run leg," Carey said.

"After finishing the race, I am excited to come back next year," she added.

Meanwhile, Carey thanked the following for cheering for her and supporting her XTERRA World trip: husband Kevin Carey, coach Andrew Noble of Australia, Island Apparel, Hornet Sports in Guam, Pacific Islands Club, UMDA, Salomon, Joshua Berger, Fred Camacho, Florian Braig, Taga Inc., Expressions, and *Saipan Tribune*.

PADDLERS

From Page 28

edition of the Micro Cup.

"At this early, I would like to invite our fellow Micronesian paddlers to join the Micronesian Games next year. We hope to see you there and were are looking forward to a tough competition in Palau," said Micro Cup race director Rob Jordan during the awards ceremony for the two-day event at the poolside of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan on Sunday.

"We have less than a year to prepare for the Micronesian Games and I hope each island will field a very competitive team in Palau," Jordan added.

Outrigger canoe racing is one of the 15 sports lined up in the Micro Games calendar. Others on the list are baseball, lawn tennis, swimming, triathlon, athletics, basketball, Micro All-Around, spear-fishing, fast-pitch softball, table tennis, weightlifting, beach volleyball, indoor volleyball, and wrestling.

Host Palau will be the team to beat in next year's Micronesian Games, as it dominated the 2006 edition of the quadrennial event held on Saipan. Palau swept the long-distance race, 1,500m, and 500m races in both the men's and women's divisions.

Pohnpei took the silver medal in the long-distance races both in the men's and women's divisions, while the CNMI claimed the bronze medal in the men's division.

In the men's 1,500m race, Pohnpei had another silver, while the CNMI took its second bronze medal. Pohnpei also notched the silver medal in the women's 1,500m, while Kosrae pocketed the bronze.

In the 500m sprint, Pohnpei had a silver and Yap claimed the bronze in the men's division, while Kosrae grabbed the silver in the women's division and Pohnpei settled for bronze.

Guam was the lone team that did not earn a medal in the 2006 Micronesian Games, but its strong showing in this year's Micro Cup sent a strong signal to their rivals that Guam paddlers are determined to redeem themselves in next year's Micro Games.

Guam's Poksai dominated the women's division of the Micro Cup, while Animun Tasi Metgot was also a force in the men's division, giving overall winner Saipan Outrigger Canoe Club a run for its money.

Poksai swept the women's 500m, 1,500m, an 12-mile race, while Metgot ruled the men's 1,500m and 12-mile races. SOCC foiled Metgot's bid for a sweep when the host prevailed in the 500m sprint.

DUENAS

From Page 28

The RGA Memorial Classis was a 3-in-1 tournament, as the Refaluwasch Golf Association also used the event as a qualifier for November Ace.

Tom Tebuteb won the November qualifying tournament after submitting the second best score in the weekend event. The 22-handicapper shot a net 68, built on a 43 on the front nines and a 47 on the back.

Actually, Tebuteb was tied with Tars Olopai for the second best net score, but the latter was disqualified from qualifying for next month's Ace as he had already won a monthly title.

Fifteen other RGA members competed in the October Ace and the November qualifying tournaments. They were Tony Rogolifoi (net 73), Kapileo (78), Dwayne Stephens (73), Sonny Flores (78), Jess Wabol (69), Joe Saures (74), Jesse Seman (69), Manny Mangarero (71), Ray Tigilau (72), Joe Wabol (75), Nick Sablan (70), Asterio Tawanpiy (71), Jae Choi (72), Carl Hocog (75), and Bae Young Man (70).

Meanwhile, RGA tournament director Jess Wabol is reminding monthly Ace winners to complete the required number of tournaments to gain entry to the club championship in December.

Ace winners must participate in at least six RGA-sanctioned events to make it to the RGA Cup, which will be played at the Marianas Country Club in Marpi. Failure to do so will give the monthly runners-up the chance to play in the year-end event.

Wabol added they will hold the November Ace tournament and the December Ace qualifier at the same day and venue and exact date will be announced later.

For more information, contact Wabol at 288-1129 or Rogolifoi at 288-3515.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	5	2	0	.714	198	98
N.Y. Jets	4	3	0	.571	152	104
Buffalo	3	4	0	.429	113	138
Miami	2	4	0	.333	146	152

South

Indianapolis	6	0	0	1.000	179	77
Houston	4	3	0	.571	167	158
Jacksonville	3	3	0	.500	120	147
Tennessee	0	6	0	.000	84	198

North

Cincinnati	5	2	0	.714	163	128
Pittsburgh	5	2	0	.714	167	129
Baltimore	3	3	0	.500	169	130
Cleveland	1	6	0	.143	72	179

West

Denver	6	0	0	1.000	133	66
San Diego	3	3	0	.500	161	143
Oakland	2	5	0	.286	62	177
Kansas City	1	6	0	.143	105	181

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

N.Y. Giants	5	2	0	.714	195	143
Philadelphia	4	2	0	.667	163	116
Dallas	4	2	0	.667	159	119
Washington	2	5	0	.286	96	123

South

New Orleans	6	0	0	1.000	238	127
Atlanta	4	2	0	.667	144	114
Carolina	2	4	0	.333	94	145
Tampa Bay	0	7	0	.000	96	203

North

Minnesota	6	1	0	.857	206	148
Green Bay	4	2	0	.667	161	96
Chicago	3	3	0	.500	129	144
Detroit	1	5	0	.167	103	188

West

Arizona	4	2	0	.667	136	109
San Francisco	3	3	0	.500	133	122
Seattle	2	4	0	.333	118	109
St. Louis	0	7	0	.000	60	211

Yesterday's Game

Philadelphia 27, Washington 17

By The Associated Press

LOCAL SCORES

GOVT/BIZ CAGE STANDINGS

IT&E	10	1
Hyatt	8	1
Tinian	5	2
Docomo	5	3
PSS	7	4
CPA	6	5
MBI	5	5
CHC	3	5
BOG	4	6
DCCA	3	7
Customs	1	7
ARFF	0	10

2009 Budweiser King and Queen of the Diamonds Softball Tournament

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Saipan leg champion SaiPal pose for a group photo with organizers of the 2009 Budweiser King and Queen of the Diamonds Softball Tournament after pulling off an 11-10 upset over Advance X-Terminators on Saturday at the Capital Hill Ballfield.

SaiPal catcher Didi Tudela, left, helps Advance runner Pauline Tudela, who fell on the ground after colliding with pitcher Gloyd Martin near the home plate.

Advance X-Terminators leftfielder Roy Celis catches a fly ball.

Advance X-Terminators' second baseman Manny Sablan throws to first base.

SaiPal's Clifton Sillil waits for the ball during the bottom of the second inning of their championship game against Advance X-Terminators.

SaiPal pitcher Gloyd Martin throws to first base after catching a grounder.

Advance X-Terminators' J.J. Laniyo catches the ball at rightfield.

Advance X-Terminators' Eric Palacios prepares to throw a pitch at the bottom of the third inning of their championship game against SaiPal.

Advance X-Terminators' Roy Celis slides safely to third base.

SaiPal and Advance X-Terminators players exchange high-fives after their title match.

Even players not sure free agency risk worth it

A rebuilding strategy centered on chasing the likes of LeBron James, Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh makes perfect sense to a team like the New York Knicks. **24**

Saipan Tribune
Sports

UBA Miller Lite cage meeting tomorrow

The Inaugural UBA Miller Lite Men's Basketball League will have its first organizational meeting tomorrow, Oct. 29, 6:30pm at the Garapan Basketball Court. **26**

Hyatt inches closer to govt caging pennant

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Hyatt Regency Saipan is two wins away from catching up with leader IT&E and taking the pennant in the IT&E Inter-Government/Business Basketball League after crushing Customs, 95-68, on Monday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Hyatt now has an 8-1 record and a sweep of its last two games will allow the Ray Lizama-coached squad to grab the pennant from IT&E. The host currently leads the league with its 10-1 mark, but could drop to second place if Hyatt ties its record due to the winner-over-the-other rule. Hyatt defeated IT&E in overtime, 112-100, in their lone meeting in the regular season last month.

The victory was in the bag for Hyatt as early as in the first quarter when it began pulling away with Dave Sablan and Ronald Delos Reyes leading the run. Sablan drilled 13 of his 39 points in the first period, while Delos Reyes chipped in nine to give Hyatt a 26-14 lead.

Sablan and Delos Reyes took a breather in the second period, but still Hyatt was in control of the game and even padded the lead to 18 points, 34-16, behind Gino Libuw, Ray Lizama, and Francis Hartmen's fastbreak plays.

Customs made a mini-run in the closing minutes of the second canto on Dennis Reyes and Ray Lizama's successive baskets to cut the lead to 10 points, 38-28. However, back-to-back layups from Bernard Aquino and a fastbreak basket from coach Ray Lizama helped Hyatt widen the gap at halftime, 45-31.

Sablan reported back to the game at the start of the second half and quickly buckled down to work, scoring six of Hyatt's first 10 points in the third period. He and Delos Reyes were unstoppable anew in the third canto, combining for 17 of Hyatt's 22 points to give the team a comfortable, 67-45 advantage, entering the fourth canto.

Sablan was not done yet, as he fired 16 more points in the payoff

See HYATT on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Hyatt Regency Saipan's Yosh Gabaldon, center, goes for a shot against Cutoms' Dennis Reyes, left, and Ryan Sablan during their game in the IT&E Inter-Government/Business Basketball League on Monday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Duenas secures RGA October Ace

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Ben Duenas failed to make it to the Top 6 of the 2009 RGA Memorial Classic, but still went home a winner after notching the October Ace.

Duenas

Scores in the RGA Classic were used to determine the winner of the October Ace and Duenas ended up with net 65 to beat the 69 Ulyssis Kapileo recorded during the October Ace qualifying tournament at the Kingfisher Golf Links early this month.

The 12-handicapper had a 1-under par 37 on the front nine and drilled a 3-over par 40 on the back for a gross 77.

See DUENAS on Page 26

Mieko vows for stronger, better performance in 2010

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan-based triathlete Mieko Carey is pleased with her pro debut in the 2009 XTERRA World Championships and vowed to put on a stronger show next year.

"I am happy with my time and my result, as I finished 18th among the 23 pros in my debut. Next year, I want to be stronger. I want to train harder to be better and compete against the pros from all over the world. I will start training early for next year's XTERRA Tour," Carey said in an e-mail to *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

Carey completed the 1.5-kilometer swim race, 32-kilometer mountain bike, and the 12-kilometer trail run in three hours, 35 minutes, and 44 seconds, shattering her 2008 time of 3:53:38. She was 161st among the around 500 participants, finishing better than last year when she placed 235th out of the 482 finishers.

"I had a great race without injury or bike problems. The race gave me so much motivation to perform better in 2010. During the race, I felt I am mentally stronger than before. I never had negative thoughts. I just kept going,

See MIEKO on Page 26

Mieko Carey, left, poses with XTERRA World three-time champion Julie Dibens after completing Sunday's race in Makena, Maui, Hawaii.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Paddlers eye 2010 Micronesian Games

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Participants in last week's 11th Micronesian Cup outrigger canoe competition are looking forward to an early reunion in Palau next year through the 7th Micronesian Games.

Next year's Micronesian Games will run from Aug. 1 to 10, a few months ahead of Palau's hosting of the 12th

See PADDLERS on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Saipan Outrigger Canoe Club paddlers, seen here heading to the finish line during Sunday's 12-mile race in the 11th Micronesian Cup in the waters off Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, are looking forward to competing against their Micronesian rivals in Palau next year for the 7th Micronesian Games.